Robert Samuel Kerr

LATE A SENATOR FROM
OKLAHOMA

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES
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Memorial Services

HELD IN THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE UNITED STATES, TOGETHER WITH
REMARKS PRESENTED IN EULOGY OF

Robert Samuel Kerr

LATE A SENATOR FROM
OKLAHOMA

U. S.

Eighty-seventh Congress
Second Session

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Biography

Robert Samuel Kerr was born in Ada (Indian Territory), Okla., September 11, 1896; student at East Central Normal School, Ada, Okla., Oklahoma Baptist University at Shawnee in 1911 and 1912, and Oklahoma University at Norman in 1915 and 1916; during the First World War served as a second lieutenant with the 1st Field Artillery, U.S. Army 1917–19, with 9 months of oversea duty; captain and later major in Oklahoma National Guard, 1921–29; was admitted to the Oklahoma bar in 1922 and commenced the practice of law in Ada, Okla., drilling contractor and oil producer in 1926; chairman of the board of Kerr-McGee Oil Industries, Inc.; special justice, Oklahoma Supreme Court, in 1931; president, Oklahoma County Juvenile Council in 1935 and 1936; member, Unofficial Pardon and Parole Board, 1935–38; Governor of Oklahoma from January 1943 to January 1947; chairman, Southern Governors' Conference in 1945 and 1946; Democratic national committeeman, 1940–48; delegate to the Democratic National Conventions, 1940–60; elected as a Democrat to the U.S. Senate in 1948, 1954, and again in 1960, and served from January 3, 1949, until his death in Washington, D.C., January 1, 1963; interment in Rose Hill Cemetery, Oklahoma City, Okla., and subsequently at the Kerr family homestead near Ada, Okla.

Memorial Services
for
Robert Samuel Kerr

Proceedings in the Senate

WEDNESDAY, *January 9, 1963.*

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, it is with deep regret that I announce to the Senate the death on Tuesday, January 1, 1963, of our colleague, the senior Senator from Oklahoma, Mr. KERR.

Mr. MONRONEY. Mr. President, I submit a resolution relating to the death of Senator ROBERT S. KERR, of Oklahoma, in whose death Oklahoma has lost its outstanding native son.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The resolution will be read.

The Chief Clerk read the resolution (S. Res. 8), as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of Hon. ROBERT S. KERR, late a Senator from the State of Oklahoma.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Senator, I move that the Senate stand in recess until 12 o'clock noon tomorrow.

The motion was unanimously agreed to; and (at 12 o'clock and 57 minutes p.m.) the Senate took a recess until tomorrow, January 10, 1963, at 12 o'clock meridian.

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

THURSDAY, *January 10, 1963.*

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Kent, one of its clerks, informed the Senate that the House had adopted the following resolution (H. Res. 12), relating to the death of the late Senator ROBERT S. KERR, of Oklahoma:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable ROBERT S. KERR, a Senator of the United States from the State of Oklahoma.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased Senator.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

FRIDAY, *March 1, 1963.*

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I submit a resolution (S. Res. 104) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The resolution will be stated.

The legislative clerk read the resolution, as follows:

Resolved, That, in accordance with notice given on February 25, the legislative business of the Senate be now suspended in order that memorial addresses may be delivered, respectively, on the lives, characters, and public service of the late Senators ROBERT S. KERR, of Oklahoma, Henry C. Dworshak, of Idaho, and Dennis Chavez, of New Mexico.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Without objection, the resolution is agreed to.

Mr. MONRONEY. Mr. President, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the three deceased Senators, I move that the Senate stand in adjournment until 12 o'clock noon Monday, March 4.

The motion was unanimously agreed to; and (at 5 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.) the Senate adjourned until Monday, March 4, 1963, at 12 o'clock meridian.

Memorial Addresses
on
Robert Samuel Kerr

Memorial Addresses

Remarks by Senator Monroney

Of Oklahoma

Mr. MONRONEY. Mr. President, the untimely death of Senator ROBERT S. KERR ended a career of public service unequaled by any Oklahoman, a career that deeply affected the course of our Nation.

For Senator KERR's great energy, intellect, and human qualities combined to mark him with the genius of leadership. His life was one of distinguished service, not only for his State, but for the Nation as well.

This Senate, this Government, and the people of this Nation will for years to come feel the loss of this buoyant, resourceful, dynamic individual who loved the Senate, its duties, its opportunities, and its responsibilities.

Senator KERR's monumental achievements in his many fields of endeavor were matched by his amazing capacity for friendship, his unbounded faith in his fellow man, and in his abiding and all-encompassing faith in God. His life exemplifies the great American story of attaining nearly impossible goals through hard work.

His dynamic and confident approach to challenging projects and new concepts sparked the drive in hundreds of friends, who were willing to follow his tested leadership in many fields. Those who were associated with Senator KERR in any project followed his lead, knowing that his careful study and evaluation would bring success. He brought this quality to all the many fields where he directed his energy. Whether it was a drive to finance a university, to build hospitals, to promote new scientific institutions, or whether it was in a daring and novel project for the conservation of water resources, in social legislation, or in private business,

his carefully thought-out plans and means of achieving his goals inspired others to join in his crusades.

For his basic formula for success was not only in having unbounded confidence in himself, but in transmitting that enthusiasm and loyalty to others. This enthusiasm made molehills out of obstacles that to some might seem mountains. This zest filled the contest with adventure as though it were an athletic event. It was fun for BOB KERR, and those who loyally followed him shared in the fun.

His aims and activities reached across all vital realms of human experience in our time. Born in a log cabin on what was truly a frontier, he strove always in the vanguard, maintaining a newness and freshness of thought. His imagination and his vision seemed boundless. In science, in social welfare, in resources development, in strengthening our national security, and in enlarging our economy, he forsook outmoded concepts to seize with youthful enthusiasm the rationale of new ideas and new approaches. " 'Tis not too late to seek a newer world," Senator KERR sometimes remarked, quoted from Lord Tennyson's "Ulysses."

ROBERT S. KERR was born in a place where the world was new. His parents had come to Indian Territory in a covered wagon and had established a small farm on land rented from the Indians. In that rustic pioneer setting, 11 years before Oklahoma was granted statehood, ROBERT S. KERR was born. In his early years, his love and respect for God's good earth were nourished in the toil of making things grow that a family might live. One learns to love and respect the order of the seasons, the rich earth, the pure blue water, the value of the forest, and the beauty of the sky when life itself depends upon the harmony one achieves with such an environment.

The son of a scholarly but self-taught father, ROBERT S. KERR diligently sought the benefits of a formal education under most difficult circumstances. Like many another pioneer boy before him, he walked many miles to and from a small schoolhouse, and he lived on the edge of destitution as a student at what was then the small beginning of what is now

a great educational institution known as Oklahoma Baptist University. Unable to afford the full college course, the future Senator interrupted his studies at the age of 17 to become a teacher in a one-room school. When World War I came, he enlisted in the Army and saw duty in France as a field artillery lieutenant. Later he gained much of his knowledge of the law during an apprenticeship in the office of one of the great early-day Oklahoma attorneys. He worked his way through courses at East Central State College in Ada, Okla., and at the University of Oklahoma. He sold magazines door to door. He also established a small produce business, buying the fruits and vegetables from the farmers in his home community and selling them at distant cities.

But Bob Kerr's real education came after the end of his formal education. Everything he did, everything he read, all that he saw were a part of the learning that lifted him to a wide range of understanding of myriad subjects and made him an able master of most of them.

Without realizing the transition that was taking place, his colleagues in the Senate and his people in Oklahoma saw this vast understanding of the Government's most complicated activities translated into national leadership. This leadership was acknowledged in the last session of the Senate.

For it was his ability, his understanding of the subjects, his command of earthy debate in explaining complicated measures, that enabled Senator Kerr to dominate the scene. These measures ranged from space communications to the President's 1962 trade bill, from medical care to a nationwide program to conserve our water resources, from tax revision to improvement in social security legislation.

Always an outstanding debater in scholastic competition, Senator Kerr's natural leadership abilities first came to statewide attention when at the age of 28 he was elected State commander of the American Legion. This was while he was still a struggling lawyer in a small city. His first ventures in oil came soon after, however, and a few years later he was the principal organizer of one of the greatest industrial organizations ever founded in Oklahoma.

In 1925 ROBERT S. KERR met, wooed, and won the hand of Grayce Breene, the talented daughter of a pioneer Oklahoma oil-drilling contractor. The late Senator often described himself as a "wife-made man." His family always came first with ROBERT S. KERR. The three boys and one girl have now established families of their own, and the love and affection that Oklahomans had for ROBERT S. KERR was reflected in an outpouring of sympathy for these fine children when he passed away.

ROBERT S. KERR'S work in civic affairs and as a lay leader of his church brought him recognition rapidly after he moved from his home community in Pontotoc County to Oklahoma City in 1931. His father had taught him the principles of Thomas Jefferson, and he rose quickly as a leader of the Democratic Party in his State, being elected national committeeman in 1940. Two years later, he became the first native Oklahoman to be elected Governor. Four years of splendid management of State affairs followed. During that period, Oklahoma was able to retire an indebtedness of $44 million, and when ROBERT S. KERR left the Governor's office a surplus of more than $40 million existed in the State treasury.

During Senator KERR'S term as Governor, devastating floods occurred in Oklahoma to compound economic difficulties which had been set in motion a decade earlier by drought and depression. When he came to the U.S. Senate in 1949 the first bill he introduced was to create the Arkansas, White, and Red River Study Commission. This resulted in a completely coordinated plan for the development of the soil and water resources of the area, which ROBERT S. KERR envisioned as the heartland of a fabulous new empire. But ROBERT S. KERR'S knowledge of the forces of nature and their effects upon our country's economy and security benefited vast regions of the United States far removed from the rural, agricultural community from which he came. The basin-wide study concept adopted with the passage of his first bill has now set a pattern being followed in many parts of the Nation.

Bob Kerr believed that the Nation's final greatness depended upon the conservation of its water resources. From the beginning of his public career, it became his principal goal. Certainly, he was interested in water for Oklahoma, an area which he loved and knew best. But from his understanding of area problems came a devotion to solving the Nation's problem of providing a certain and dependable supply of good water for the generations to come.

His unmatched knowledge in this field was recognized as he rose to lead the Senate in planning water resource development.

Much of the landmark legislation bears Senator Kerr's name and attests to his success in the passage of most of the major bills in this field.

Robert S. Kerr authored a bill to liberalize the benefits of soil conservation projects designed for upstream flood prevention. This legislation now provides water for irrigation, municipal water supply and other benefits in needy sections of many States.

Senator Kerr was the author of the Tennessee Valley Authority self-financing bill, which at a moment of crisis for that great conservation and development system in the South gave the TVA an opportunity for new growth and stability.

He was a coauthor of the Pollution Control Act, which provides grants-in-aid to cities as an incentive to adequately treat sewage, prevent pollution of our streams, and provide policing powers to the Public Health Service. Always in search of new methods and new solutions, he secured in this bill a provision for research into better techniques for treating the critical problem of keeping our water clean.

Millions of Americans living in Northern and Eastern States will enjoy the benefits resulting from the compromise legislation which Senator Kerr worked out permitting the construction of the Niagara power development project. Opposite opinions had practically stalemated this development when Senator Kerr intervened. He also assisted in working out the legislation for the St. Lawrence Seaway, for the Delaware River compact, and the Colorado storage project.

ROBERT S. KERR was chairman of the Select Committee on National Water Resources, which, after an exhaustive nationwide survey, established principles which now have become the cornerstone policies of water resources development throughout the Nation. To hasten action upon these vital conservation projects, ROBERT S. KERR, through indomitable insistence and persuasion, secured a liberalized policymaking recreation part of the justification for reservoir building and providing for storage in Federal reservoirs for low-flow regulation to improve what he liked to call water quality management. This expression, "water quality management," was his method of accentuating the positive, rather than relying upon the negative term of antipollution control.

A résumé of Senator KERR's legislative activity in the final 2 years of his life embraces an amazing spectrum. His accomplishments in the fields of foreign trade and tax legislation are well known, and to recite them here is unnecessary. His strong support and aid in the working out of our interstate highway program is likewise a matter known to us all. Another monument arising from his diligence in the Finance Committee is the Kerr-Mills bill, which now provides medical care for many of our aged citizens who deserve it most.

ROBERT S. KERR was a charitable man. The Kerr-Mills bill is but one of many, many legislative enactments relating to social security and the welfare of our less fortunate citizens which had his meaningful support. Not so well known, perhaps, were the activities of a charitable nature which occupied many of his hours when he was not on the floor of the Senate or in the confines of the committee rooms. Many of these activities focused on Senator KERR's beloved Baptist Church. He had served as president of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma and as vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention. For several years before his death he had been president of the Baptist Foundation of Oklahoma.

In the book of Malachi it is written:

> Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Intimates of Senator KERR know that he went far beyond this Biblical admonition, providing not only tithe, but much more to support the charities and good works that he believed in. No one, I am sure, will ever be able to document accurately the extent of his giving, for his talent in this field he carefully and humbly hid from public view.

No one knows how many hundreds of young men there are—now outstanding business, professional, and technical leaders—who received help from BOB KERR when they needed it most. His door was always open to youth who were seeking—as BOB KERR once sought—an opportunity to work their way up. In his own business, in his gifts and support to young men starting out in new fields or professions, his help was there in countless cases.

Sometimes it was substantial aid in the face of financial disaster for a new family. Sometimes it was a new start in life or a stake in a business that he believed would prosper through the qualities of those he helped.

Being a friend in time of need brought him a substantial part of the satisfaction he had in his own success—it enabled him to help others to be successful, too.

His gifts to educational institutions and organizations will be of much benefit to deserving youth long after all of us here today have joined him in the course of mortal man.

ROBERT S. KERR recognized the inevitability of change, and profoundly expected most changes to be constantly for the better. His work as chairman of the Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences was rooted in the philosophy that mankind is fast discarding the shackles of fear, the fear of the unknown. "Faith," he said, "smashes the shackles of fear, frees us from its imprisonment, replaces its paralysis with unlimited power."

In taking the lead in the bipartisan effort to accelerate our Nation's program for the development of outer space for peaceful purposes, he once explained his position in terms of his faith in God, in our country, in our free institutions, in ourselves. "Reinforced and fortified by faith," he said, "we can live safely and happily amid the astonishing realities of

today and face the fabulous predictables of tomorrow. We can also anticipate the astounding unpredictables of the unknown depths of space with unshakable serenity."

Time—as well as space had to be conquered. And with his unusual ability to get things moving, Senator KERR applied his drive to this vast and complicated field. It was his ability to understand industrial methods in big projects that gave him the experience to move rapidly into this field of space exploration with a well organized program for mobilizing the Nation's best talents into the new effort in space.

We could not buy time, and Senator KERR was dedicated to establishing this Nation's preeminence in this vast new field. He considered the Russian effort a challenge to the supremacy of democracy, and acted accordingly. We were out to win.

President Kennedy once described Senator KERR as "the man with the long view." That simple encomium fits.

All of us recall how his mind sometimes overflowed with poetry or song, erupting as a fountain of wit to ease the strife and turmoil of debate. Senator KERR had many favorite passages from Scripture and many verses and sayings of his own that seasoned and enriched the lives of all who came in contact with him. In serious moments his stately passages or quotations gave dignity and meaning to the subject at hand. Or if the occasion demanded, he could frolic with words and phrases to lighten the burdens of debate or discussion.

Whether in debate on the floor of the Senate, or in a farm meeting in the hills of Oklahoma, BOB KERR always had at his command a story in point to sharpen his explanation of his position or to puncture the argument of an opponent. He loved to use his vast store of anecdotes—many native to Oklahoma—not as a gag to get a laugh, but to make understandable a philosophy or a point he was anxious to have thoroughly understood. It was also this facility for weaving humor into serious discussions to clarify his meaning that made him one of the Senate's most sought after speakers on platforms and in forums throughout the country.

It was his humor that made friends of those who once discounted his ability. It was his humor that added a mellowness to a drive that would otherwise have been suspect of seeking too much power. It was his humor that helped sustain him in the long hours that he worked.

He loved his work, but above all he loved the Senate—its Members and the body itself—as one of the world's greatest institutions. I am sure that if he had been required to make a choice between his vast business enterprises and his seat in the Senate, he would have chosen the Senate; for no man loved his work here more than the senior Senator from Oklahoma.

No one quotation can epitomize this man. His philosophy was expressed in many voices. His unique mind held in constant readiness these expressions that reflected his philosophy.

Yes, in a moment of challenge he would say:

> Come, my friends,
> 'Tis not too late to seek a newer world.
> Push off, and sitting well in order smite
> The sounding furrows; for my purpose holds
> To sail beyond the sunset, and the baths
> Of all the western stars, until I die.
> It may be that the gulfs will wash us down;
> It may be we shall touch the Happy Isles,
> And see that great Achilles, whom we knew.
> Though much is taken, much abides; and though
> We are not now that strength which in old days
> Moved earth and heaven; that which we are, we are;
> One equal temper of heroic hearts,
> Made weak by time and fate, but strong in will
> To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.

Yes, ROBERT S. KERR enjoyed the gift that enabled him to translate the vibrant spirit of his personality through the use of timeless and borrowed phrases of Ulysses and many another stalwart figure from the past. He was, however, more than a Ulysses of his day, for his heroic heart was tempered by his love for mankind. One of his favorite Biblical quotations came from the 13th chapter of St. John. He

would interrupt a fiery argument, when tempers seemed about out of hand, to remind that Jesus said:

A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

This was ROBERT S. KERR, a loving and heroic heart, strong in will. He strove, he sought, he found, and until the end of his life he did not yield.

All Oklahoma expresses great sorrow in mourning the loss of her distinguished son and great sympathy for the honored family he left behind.

Mr. President, the words spoken today here on the floor in tribute to Senator KERR make a lasting record of his love for Senators and of their love for him.

I consider it a great honor to have been privileged to serve 12 years as his junior colleague—the most happy relationship a man could possibly have.

His passing leaves a deep void in the State of Oklahoma, where his leadership was so effectively known.

All Oklahoma, and particularly myself and Mrs. Monroney, deeply sympathize with Mrs. Kerr and the wonderful family in this loss.

Remarks by Senator Edmondson

Of Oklahoma

Mr. EDMONDSON. Mr. President, I rise today with a sense of pride, but also with a sense of inadequacy, to pay tribute to Oklahoma's first native-son Governor and late senior U.S. Senator. No other man surpassed ROBERT S. KERR in service to our State.

My active career in politics began with his first campaign for the Senate in 1948. He had completed a successful term as wartime Governor of Oklahoma. I went to his office in Oklahoma City and volunteered my services, and a group of us recently discharged from military service in World War II organized students in some 20 colleges in the State for his Senate campaign.

My impression of him then was to remain always. Here was a man not only with vision, unlimited energy, and an almost fierce dedication, but also a man with a unique understanding of people and a sincere concern for their well-being.

In 1948 he was elected to his first term and so began one of the Senate's most successful and productive careers. Such effectiveness did not come without sacrifice. He realized better than anyone that it took hard work to achieve success, and his road to it was never an easy one. He was always willing to work, and one could always count on him working just a little bit longer and harder than his toughest competitor. As Senator KERR once said:

> I came here to do a certain job for Oklahoma. It is a big program. It takes a long time. I can't figure any other way to get it done—except to work.

Of all his outstanding qualities, and he had many, I believe this untiring dedication to the realization of a job well done was most significant. Couple this with his ability to see beyond today's horizon—to see the possiblities of tomorrow and make them probabilities today—and we have the

blueprint of a man who succeeded in business, in industry, and in agriculture; served his State and country well; and was a leader in his church.

Being a son of the soil, born in a log cabin, he had a keen awareness of the importance of conservation, development, and full utilization of our natural resources.

Years before others, he saw the Arkansas River as a vast navigation channel from the Mississippi River across the entire State of Arkansas and deep into Oklahoma. To many, such vision appeared in earlier years to be pure folly. To the untrained eye the Arkansas River looked like a vast sandbed with too little water for navigation—a scar on the face of our State caused by our own careless, thoughtless, and wasteful use.

But to Senator KERR it was no folly. It was a challenge to restore one of the country's greatest rivers to its original condition and uses, and in the process open the heart of the Nation to industrial development and production.

When he campaigned across the State preaching such plans and possibilities, his opponent often belittled them by suggesting it would be far more practical to pave the Arkansas. But today this dream, this often called folly, is close to completion and stands as a monument to his foresight and, more particularly, his untiring effort.

As the Members of the Senate know, this ability to serve your State, this effectiveness, does not come overnight or easily, but only through years of service and a constant dedication to the job to be done.

In later years, the effects of this great Oklahoman's service not only crossed the borders of States, but spanned the oceans as well. In the last session alone, his contributions in the fields of space and world trade stand as mute testimony to this fact. To his wife and family—Mrs. Edmondson joins me in expressing our deepest sympathy.

Words alone neither can nor need be adequate today to pay tribute to Oklahoma's native son. His deeds are his monument, as lasting as the land, wood, water—and finally space—to which he dedicated his life.

Remarks by Senator Robertson

Of Virginia

Mr. ROBERTSON. Mr. President, BOB KERR has gone; a mighty oak has fallen. A void has been left in the U.S. Senate hard to fill.

In the passing of this economic, political, and religious leader, the U.S. Senate, the people of Oklahoma, and the people of the Nation have suffered a great loss. For the past 14 years, it has been my privilege to serve with him in the Senate and to claim him as a personal friend. I felt about him as did Maj. Thomas Howie, of Virginia, who said of the heroic courage of the men of the 116th Infantry whom he led in its historic landing on Omaha Beach in World War II:

> I am both humble before God and proud before my fellow men that America produces the breed of men I have had the privilege to go into action with.

History will record how Senator ROBERT S. KERR, of Oklahoma, exemplified the philosophy of Woodrow Wilson, who said: "It is the primary duty of a leader to lead his own generation and not the next." Today, I ask the privilege of merely paying tribute to Senator KERR as a man and a Christian gentleman. BOB KERR had a capacity for friendship, and we in the Senate loved him. He achieved success without conceit, accumulated wealth without arrogance, and power without ruthlessness—a self-made man who gave to God all credit for what he was. He was a man of character whose faith in God never wavered; a man of courage who flinched before no foe—either on the battlefield in World War I or in any subsequent political arena. He was taken from us while still in the full possession of a vigorous and elastic mind. But his was the philosophy of Robert Louis Stevenson, who said:

> And does not life go down with a better grace foaming in full body over a precipice than miserably straggling to an end in sandy deltas?

We shall miss him, but we give assurance to his relatives and constituents who loved him that we loved him too and that love will keep his memory green. We must not be too sad over the passing of one who "kept the faith," because—

When the great and good depart,
What is it more than this
That man, who is from God sent forth,
Doth yet again to God return?
Such ebb and flow must ever be
Then wherefore should we mourn?

Remarks by Senator Mansfield

Of Montana

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, we were all shocked by the sudden death of Senator ROBERT KERR. BOB KERR was an immensely talented and versatile man. Rising from humble beginnings, he parlayed these talents into success in a number of fields. Not the least of these was in the legislative field, where he gave full expression to his manifold abilities.

As a member of three important committees, as an orator, as a skilled debator, as a Senator who defended the interests of his constituents, and as one who did his homework thoroughly, he had few if any peers. The rest of us had grown so accustomed to his personal competence that it is hard to imagine the U.S. Senate without BOB KERR. He was a giant of a man, not only physically, but in the sense that he filled the Senate with his presence.

BOB KERR'S unexpected death was a tragic one. His loss has been felt in the Senate, in Oklahoma, and in the Nation. But those who mourn his passing can find consolation in the achievements of his life and of his career in the Senate. He played a key role in the passage of countless measures—some controversial and some universally acclaimed. It is fitting that his greatest legislative contribution came in the last of his 15 sessions in Congress. Senator KERR'S efforts in behalf of the historic Trade Expansion Act of 1962 were of inestimable value in gaining almost unanimous acceptance of the measure in the Senate. The overwhelming success of the act in this body may be properly considered the crowning achievement of his legislative career. He was, in my opinion, the ablest of the able.

Both in and out of the Senate, BOB KERR had a lively sense of humor which complemented his dedication to hard work. And he was a deeply religious man who took a lifelong interest

in the activities of his church. For these and his many other qualities, he will be sorely missed.

Bob Kerr was a great American, a great Senator, and a great Democrat. Last, but certainly not least, he was a great Oklahoman.

I wish to take this opportunity to extend once again the heartfelt sympathies of Mrs. Mansfield and myself to Mrs. Kerr and her family and to the people of Oklahoma.

Bob Kerr was an outstanding Senator who has made his mark on this body and whose good works will be his enduring monument.

As the majority leader of this body, no one will miss him more.

Remarks by Senator McClellan

Of Arkansas

Mr. McCLELLAN. Mr. President, it is with a deep sense of personal loss that I join my colleagues in paying tribute to a great American—Senator ROBERT KERR. It is most appropriate to use the word "great" in describing BOB KERR, for I am sure all will agree that he was in the truest sense of the word a great citizen, a great Senator, a great Oklahoman, and a great American. As a measure of his stature and greatness, we have only to look to the void created in this body by his death. He served with us here in this body for 14 years with great distinction, devotion, and dedication. In those years of service and close associations, he endeared himself to the high respect, confidence and personal esteem of all of us, and of all America.

I have lost a personal friend, and the State of Arkansas has lost a true friend and a wonderful neighbor to whom it will always be indebted. There has always been a community of interest between my own State of Arkansas and the great State of Oklahoma. Because of these common interests, I often had the privilege of working closely with Senator KERR in furthering the progress and development of our respective States. Perhaps the outstanding example of this and of the results that have been obtained through cooperative efforts between Senator KERR and the Arkansas congressional delegation is the Arkansas River Basin development program which means so much to both Oklahoma and Arkansas. The people of Arkansas will never forget, and will always be grateful for, the tremendous contribution which BOB KERR made in bringing this project to fruition. Generations yet unborn will benefit from the prosperity which this program will bring to the Arkansas River Valley.

BOB KERR was the kind of man who is so greatly needed in our country today. His kind of man has been rare in all

periods of history. He was a living example of what can be accomplished by hard work and individual initiative in this great country of ours. Young people of today would do well to study his life, for there is no finer example of the opportunities presented to the individual by the free enterprise system of the United States than the life of BOB KERR. His activities in both private and public life were a succession of accomplishments that represent perhaps the best illustration possible of the American success story.

Throughout our service here together, my respect and admiration for him grew ever greater with the passing of years. He was possessed of marked ability, industry, and courage. No Member of this body had greater wisdom or influence in legislative affairs, or a more striking and impressive personality. He was a Senator's Senator. He was a deeply Christian man. He could be gentle, but he could also act with the strength and toughness of a man who knows no fear. He stamped the print of his personality on the course of events in this body as few men have done.

The people of Oklahoma, I am sure, loved and respected him for what he was, a remarkable and dedicated public servant, whose services to his State and his Nation were of the very highest order.

BOB KERR will be greatly missed by all of us and by all Americans. When we consider the stature of the man, we realize that anything we might say about him would be an understatement. I find words, mere words, truly are inadequate to express the emotions and sentiments that well up in my heart on this occasion. It is difficult for me to realize that he is gone.

Mrs. McClellan joins me in extending our heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Kerr and members of the family. We share their deep sorrow and their great loss.

Remarks by Senator Johnston

Of South Carolina

Mr. JOHNSTON. Mr. President, it is with deep sorrow that I recall the tragic death of my beloved friend and colleague, ROBERT S. KERR. His untimely passing marks the end of the long, distinguished career of one of the century's greatest champions of democracy.

Serving and working side by side with BOB was indeed one of the most rewarding and fulfilling experiences of my life. I never met a man who did not respect him. Driven by an indefatigable determination to pursue and fulfill all his dreams, he set his goals high. His interests encompassed many fields, and in his lifetime he served as a schoolteacher, lawyer, soldier, rancher, oilman, industrialist, financier, statesman, humanitarian, author, orator, and churchman.

Born in a log cabin in the blackjack country of Pontotoc 13 years before Oklahoma became a State, BOB KERR found no task too big or too overpowering for him. He was one of the last true pioneers of America, and in keeping with that spirit he touched the lives of thousands of people. Always he retained his deep faith and inherent understanding and compassion for all people, his inspiration coming from spiritual truth and an intense love of his country and fellow men.

One of the leading national churchmen of the Baptist Church, BOB was a deeply religious man. He was one of the most dedicated men I have ever known and strove against overwhelming odds to attain his ideals.

He lived and worked under the slogan "Land, wood, and water." Despite his fantastic success, he never lost sight of these three things, and became America's first and foremost developer of natural resources and soil conservation both in Oklahoma and all over the United States.

Having a thirst for factual knowledge, a fondness for research, and an analytical mind, BOB KERR acquired a foresight for predicting the future problems of this Nation. With these talents he became a founder and champion of the space efforts in this country.

Loyal to his beloved State, he earned the title of "Mr. Oklahoma." BOB was also well known and loved in South Carolina, having visited my State on several occasions in an official capacity. As chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Natural Water Resources he conducted hearings in Columbia and Charleston. He was guest speaker at a meeting of the South Carolina Press Association and just this past year spoke in Columbia at a Democratic Party rally. A great orator, BOB touched the hearts of the people of South Carolina with his sincere words.

His endless deeds and toil for his fellow men and his devotion to public service and to making America a better place can never be erased. Long will this Nation mourn the death of BOB KERR, and never will there be a man big enough to follow in his footsteps. May his spirit and memory ever be a shining light and lasting inspiration for all generations.

Remarks by Senator Stennis

Of Mississippi

Mr. STENNIS. Mr. President, I wish to observe at the beginning that the Members of this body who served the longest with Senator KERR are the ones who have been more inclined to remain in the Chamber during all of the memorial service. I know that all Senators who can be here are present. I observe in the Chamber the Vice President, who was one of Senator KERR's great friends. Everyone is giving the utmost attention. That within itself is an unspoken tribute to this truly great man whom we knew and loved so well.

At the expense of some repetition, I desire to make a few remarks about this big, friendly, magnanimous man who did so much for his country in the relatively short time he was a Member of the Senate.

I pass on to the youth of this country, especially those who are interested in public life, a point which Senator KERR made with me when he told me of a conversation he once had with his father, who was a trusted and respected county official in Oklahoma. Senator KERR one day walked into the office of his father, who was clerk of the court, and said, "I want to be the Governor of Oklahoma."

His father said:

Fine, son. Keep your eye on that goal, and you will get there. But first establish yourself in some kind of business or profession, so that you will have something substantial besides the salary of your office on which to fall back, and thus be able greatly to increase your opportunity for service.

BOB did that, and in a great way. I think it is mighty good advice for young men, and we want more of them to become interested in entering public life, to bear such advice in mind, and thus to build an economic foundation on which to broaden their opportunities in public life.

Senator KERR was also a man of great faith—not only faith in God, but faith in mankind, as well. He always attended our breakfast gatherings. Shortly before our last meeting in October of last year, at the end of a hard session, particularly hard for him, I remarked to him one day that he appeared to be rather fagged out. I said, "BOB, the last meeting we will have will be next Wednesday morning. We must end the year on a great note of faith. I want you to lead."

He said, "I will be there."

He gave us one of the finest talks on practical spirituality, the practical side of spiritual values, that we had ever heard. So valuable were his remarks that I asked him for his notes that he had made hurriedly the night before—I understood it was about midnight, and had a photostatic copy made of them. I treasure them not only as a guide to the great man's thinking, but also for the value they have to me in a personal way.

MR. President, I have heard it said that one of the former Vice Presidents said to a Member of this body that in order to be a great Senator, it was more important to have courage than to have brains. I believe that to be true. BOB KERR had both.

I wish to read "A Prayer for My Pastor," which, as Rev. Mr. Hobbs said, ROBERT KERR published many years ago. This is what our late friend wrote:

Our Father, let me be a pillar of strength to help hold him up and not a thorn in his flesh to sap his strength, nor a burden on his back to pull him down.

Let me support him without striving to possess him.

Let me lift his hands without placing shackles around them.

Let me give him help that he may devote more time in working for the salvation of others and less time in gratifying my vanity.

Let me work for him as the pastor of all the members and not compel him to spend precious time in bragging on me.

Let me be unselfish in what I do for him and not selfish in demanding that he do more for me.

Let me strive to serve him and the church much and be happy as he serves me less and the church and others more.

Mr. President, as his pastor said, I believe Bob Kerr's prayer was answered a thousandfold. It was characteristic of him. He was always doing for others and he was always thinking of others.

Remarks by Senator Ellender

Of Louisiana

Mr. ELLENDER. Mr. President, I find it difficult to express the feeling of personal loss I suffered when I was informed of the death of Senator ROBERT S. KERR. It is more difficult to express the loss that the entire Nation sustained in his passing.

I had the privilege of working with Senator KERR for many years on conserving, preserving, and developing the natural resources of our country. He and I both took a deep, fervent, and abiding interest in waterway and river valley development.

I am glad to be able to say that his interest extended not only to his own State of Oklahoma, but also to all the other areas of our great Nation. However, it is only natural that his primary interest would lie in the development of his native State and its river valleys. He and I worked jointly on these developments: the Gillham Reservoir, in Arkansas; the Millwood Reservoir, also in Arkansas; and the Broken Bow and Pine Creek Reservoirs, in Oklahoma; as well as many other projects designed to aid the development of the Arkansas and Red River Valley and the development of the Nation as a whole.

In the earlier days we were among the first to express an interest in the Ferrell's Bridge Reservoir, in Texas, which is on a tributary of the Red River, and in the large and promising McGee's Bend project, also in Texas, on a tributary of the Red River.

Our interest was joint, and it was lasting. He and I considered, and I still consider, that the development of the Arkansas and Red Rivers to their full potential should be a concern of the utmost importance to the Nation as a whole.

Of these worthy projects, only the Ferrell's Bridge Reservoir, in Texas, has been completed. I expect to carry on Sen-

ator KERR's ideal; and I express the hope that my future efforts will result in the completion of those projects, in which he was so vitally interested.

In 1960 Senator KERR published his now well-known and widely respected volume entitled "Land, Wood, and Water." I am pleased and proud to be mentioned in its pages. I am indeed fortunate in having an autographed copy of it on my desk.

Senator KERR's inscription to me on the flyleaf is very complimentary. It contains such words as "greatest," "most able," and "generous." I am sincere when I say that if I could now return those compliments to him, they would prove far, far insufficient to describe the man.

I am sure the first paragraph of the preface to "Land, Wood, and Water" contains a large measure of Senator KERR'S personal philosophy. That paragraph reads as follows:

> Ever since I was a boy on the frontier, the wonders of nature have awed and inspired me. My father cultivated this taste, coining the rhythmic phrase of "land, wood, and water." As he often told me, these were his objectives when he set out to find a home in the old Indian territory. There, on the farm he chopped out of a wilderness, I could plainly see the basis of our existence. As I grew to manhood with broader horizons, I realized that the trio of natural wealth is the foundation of all prosperity and essential to a better way of life everywhere.

While living, Senator KERR did everything in his power to make stronger that foundation of all prosperity.

I close by saying that I count myself most fortunate to have been a friend of Senator KERR, and to have been able to aid him in some small degree in carrying out his life's work.

I am deeply grieved at his passing, and I extend to his wife and family my heartfelt sympathy.

Remarks by Senator Holland

Of Florida

Mr. HOLLAND. Mr. President, I first had the privilege of knowing our late friend, Governor and Senator BOB KERR, when both of us were serving as Governors—he as the Governor of Oklahoma, and I as Governor of my native State, Florida. The last 2 years of my term—1943 and 1944—overlapped the first 2 years of his; and I had the chance to get in close touch with him when we met in the Southern Governors' Conference meetings or at national defense conferences. It was my pleasure—and I have a good deal of pride in remembering it—to nominate him to be chairman of the Southern Governors' Conference when I was leaving the Office of Governor, in 1944; and he was named to serve in that capacity. I believe he served in it 2 years.

He used to say to me—I am sure the remark was facetious, but, nevertheless, I appreciated it—that he thought my helping him to be named to that particular position launched him beyond the borders of the State of Oklahoma. That statement was typical of his generosity, for it would have been impossible to have contained him within the bounds of Oklahoma.

When he came to the Senate, we served together on the Public Works Committee, and also on the Appropriations Committee, in connection with matters relating to public works, because he served there as ex officio member of the Public Works Subcommittee when it was dealing with matters relating to public works. He was always on hand at those meetings, as my distinguished friend the Senator from Louisiana [Mr. Ellender], the able chairman of that particular subcommittee, will recall.

I can remember now what happened late one evening last year when we were having a conference with the conferees from the other body in the old Supreme Court chamber when

Senator KERR was a conferee for the Senate on the public works appropriation bill. I shall never forget the delightful way that he wangled some particularly desirable things, from his standpoint and those of his constituency in Oklahoma, from the conferees from the other body.

On the Space Committee I had the pleasure of serving under his chairmanship for 2 years. I take this opportunity to say that I have never heard any greater illustration of knowledge of a complex subject matter that he showed in cross-examining leading executives from some of the communications firms of the country when we were holding hearings on the Telstar bill last year.

Insofar as my State is concerned, he honored us frequently with his presence at Canaveral and elsewhere. He conducted a meeting of his Select Committee on Water Resources in Jacksonville, at which time our people paid him the acclaim that was due him.

He used to come down fishing on the St. Johns River with a friend of his and mine, Capt. Noah Tillman, who operates a fishing houseboat which he has named *Noah's Ark,* and out of which Senator KERR seemed to draw particular pleasure. He used to like to talk about the good times he had down there fishing.

He was a very human person, liking things of the type that I mentioned, especially in the way of being out in the wide out of doors with friends.

Last fall he came down and spoke as the honored guest at the University of Florida annual Blue Key meeting at the homecoming game. Though I frequently heard him on the floor of the Senate when his sarcasm almost baffled description, I have never heard him to better advantage than I heard him that night when he felt that the preliminary portions of the program, trespassed upon his time after he had come down the long distance to Florida to deliver a speech to us. He wound up with everybody in that huge crowd of about 1,500 leading citizens from all over our State loving everything that he said and everything that he stood for.

In closing, I wish that the Record could preserve the feeling of sorrow, solemnity, and absolute devastation that prevailed when we heard that Senator KERR had unexpectedly passed away on January 1 of this year. Many of us were at Miami for the Orange Bowl game. The President of the United States was flying from West Palm Beach to Miami to be our distinguished and honored guest at that game. When the news came through the air of the death of BOB KERR, the whole affair was turned into a channel which is almost indescribable in any words that I might utter. When the President came into the little tent which had been set up for him so that he might be received by a group of friends, there was on his face the mark of a terrible sorrow that had struck him a few minutes before. The same is true of Senator Mansfield and of all others who were present.

I do not believe I would be going too far to say that Senator KERR'S death at that particular time may have had some effect on the result or outcome of that game. Without by any means discrediting the fine performance by the football team from the University of Alabama—and it was an outstanding performance—I am sure that every man on the Oklahoma team that day felt a sense of distinct personal loss and sorrow, and it must have had some effect upon what he did that day.

That indicated the kind of man Senator KERR was. He left his mark upon all who knew him and many who did not know him. He will be long remembered as a personage who had a character distinct and different from that of anyone else, which marked him as a man among men, and one whom, of course, we shall always miss greatly in the Senate.

Mrs. Holland and I join in expressing our deep sympathy to Mrs. Kerr and the children. I am sure that the words of all who speak here today will make them understand how deeply their beloved one will be missed by all of us and by a grateful Nation.

Remarks by Senator Fulbright

Of Arkansas

Mr. FULBRIGHT. Mr. President, Oklahoma and the Nation suffered a great loss by the death of BOB KERR. He belonged in that unusually small group of men who seem to be born to lead and he used this God-given ability well. Monuments to his contributions to this Nation exist in the form of far-reaching programs touching the daily lives of every American—from conservation of our natural resources to exploring the frontiers of space. Perhaps the fact that he was born and raised on the frontier helped form his deep and abiding faith in the future of America. He watched Oklahoma grow from a raw, untamed territory to one of the most dynamic and progressive States in the Union. Much of this progress was due to his own efforts; growing from confidence in the great potential of his State and our Nation. He had courage and enthusiasm. He had judgment and perspective. He had humor. He had loyalty. And he had tremendous drive and ability.

Few men have, in real life, lived the American success story. BOB KERR was one of them. Born in a log cabin, he was a self-made man who, through hard work, ability, and initiative, became the head of a great industry and more important, one of the most able Senators ever to serve in this body. His was a remarkable career, but he was a remarkable man. Throughout his life BOB KERR never forgot the source of his wisdom and strength. He was a faithful and devoted leader in the Baptist Church, and I know that his fellow Baptists will sorely miss him.

He had certain precepts for living, and he stuck by them.

For his church, he tithed. And for his beliefs he indulged in neither alcohol nor tobacco.

He was a strong believer in self-discipline.

His talents as a legislative craftsman are legendary. Whenever he brought a bill to the Senate floor for action every other Senator knew that the Senator from Oklahoma had done his homework. He knew the answers to any questions raised in debate on his bills. BOB KERR mastered the intricacies of legislation dealing with subjects all the way from taxes to space. He knew his business, and all other Senators knew that he knew it. We are all familiar with his great ability in debate. I think that a good bit of his well-deserved reputation as a debater, was due to his thorough knowledge of legislative business coming before the Senate.

The people of Arkansas lost a great and true friend at BOB KERR's passing. The Arkansas delegation worked closely with him on many projects of mutual interest. The Arkansas River navigation and Red River programs on which he worked so tirelessly will be only two of the more important monuments in our area to his efforts. His work on this project is typical of his foresight on conservation matters. He took the long range view—the view that it was incumbent on us to protect the Nation's natural resources for generations to come. Our children and our children's children will owe a great debt to BOB KERR for his efforts in protecting their heritage.

It is sometimes hard for us to understand why—for lack of a tiny part—a great whole can disintegrate.

How often we wonder at the fall of a giant jet for lack of a bit of metal in a crucial spot. And now we have wondered at a big man's falling for the nonfunctioning of a small but vital part.

BOB KERR did not have great seniority in the Senate but his vital interest in the processes and his deep convictions on many points led to his having influence far beyond that to be expected from one of his tenure.

His mark on our times is indelible and it is our loss, the Senate's loss, the country's loss, that he could not have had a longer span among us. He paid me the honor of coming to my State last fall to speak in my behalf. He was my friend and I miss him.

Remarks by Senator Young

Of North Dakota

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, it is not often that the U.S. Senate and the Nation suffers such a grievous loss as it has in the passing of ROBERT KERR. He was an unusually talented and effective public servant.

BOB KERR had so many fine qualities. He was the truest friend anyone could have. Even though tremendously busy he always found time to help others. Mr. President, BOB KERR spent much of his time in the U.S. Senate helping other Senators. If he thought a Senator had a worthy cause he would leave no stone unturned to help him, but if he thought his cause was not worthy he was frank to tell him so.

Among BOB KERR'S many talents were his quick wit, his great intellect, and his ready grasp of any subject he chose to debate on the Senate floor. Few Senators ever successfully sponsored as much important legislation as he—legislation of the kind that was not only beneficial to his beloved State of Oklahoma but also to the entire Nation.

One of the memories of BOB KERR that I will always cherisn is the opportunity that I had to serve with him on the Select Committee of National Water Resources. Every one of us in this Chamber is aware of his dedication to the development of the resources of this country, and no Member of Congress ever went to BOB KERR and asked his help with a worthy project that he did not receive it. I remember very well that the first hearing the select committee held was at Bismarck in my State of North Dakota, and at that meeting BOB KERR seemed to take as much interest in what my people had to say as if the hearing had been held in his own State of Oklahoma.

In the years that I had the privilege of serving in the Senate with BOB KERR, notwithstanding the fact that he probably had a reputation as being partisan, I can never recall a

time when he was not anxious to help the Members on this side of the aisle as well as those on his side. BOB KERR was a big man. He was bigger than politics; he was bigger than a region. I have never known another man who had the vision and the courage and the complete faith in the future of this country that could compare with his. As an example of his vision, he once said:

No region in the country, possibly in the world, is better stocked with fuels—oil, natural gas, and coal. Only 10 percent of the potential hydroelectric power has been developed. The mineral treasures are almost endless. The forests are being restocked in mammoth proportions, and this is what will make this the greatest country under the sun, its resources of which the people are the greatest.

Every one of the 50 States of this great country lost a friend in the homegoing of BOB KERR. It will be a long time until he can be replaced with a man of vision such as he possessed. His State is filled with monuments to his vision. Almost every river in this State has reservoirs that testify to his efforts. The soil conservation program of his State stands as an example for all of us to follow.

As a member of the select committee, I came to know why he was considered the leader in the field of developing natural resources.

In addition to his efforts in the resources field, no man ever stood on the floor of this Senate who was more qualified in taxes and finances than BOB KERR. The most difficult pieces of legislation in this complicated field were made to appear simple by the ability of BOB KERR to provide a complete analysis of how they would work and what their effect would be.

Many trees grow in the forest and are cut down, the only evidence of their going being the stumps which they leave. But once in a great while a mighty oak falls. And falling, it leaves a vacancy against the sky.

The U.S. Senate sorely misses BOB KERR—one of the great intellectual giants of our time—a man of many talents who made good use of all of them.

Bob Kerr's greatest contribution was to his church. He spent much of his time and energy in serving his church and gave liberally of his earnings. He was a true Christian.

In Bob Kerr's passing I have lost one of the best friends I ever had. May I extend my deepest sympathy to Mrs. Kerr and all of his wonderful family.

Remarks by Senator Anderson

Of New Mexico

Mr. ANDERSON. Mr. President, I suppose there were few people in the Senate who felt as deeply as I did the loss of the great man from Oklahoma.

I think of him, first of all, as a great neighbor. While he was Governor of Oklahoma, there were many items he wished to have disposed of in connection with the agriculture of that State. Time after time he came to the Department of Agriculture, where I was then associated, and presented the problems to me.

He had under consideration at one time a piece of land which he wanted for one of the agricultural colleges. He finally found a way to acquire it. But there was no putting him off until that was worked out.

He had at another time a program for agricultural price supports which he thought could be handled in a businesslike fashion. He prevailed upon me, as Secretary of Agriculture, to accept the program for purchase, and he said, "Leave it to me from there on out. I will see that you do not have to buy anything." And, true enough, I did not. The program worked exceptionally well because it was sponsored by an individual who had rare business judgment.

I point out that he remembered things of that nature.

In 1948, when he and I both were candidates for the U.S. Senate, he was very busy with the campaign in his own State. I appealed to him to come to my State and to make one or two speeches for me. He finally asked me to set a date. I set a date. He said, "You will have to give me a little while to think it over. I will call you later this afternoon." He called me later in the afternoon and he said, "I'll be there. A little change is required in what I have to do, but I'll be there."

He stopped first at Roswell, where he had a sister living, and made a talk there. Then he flew to Clovis, N. Mex., where there were assembled a great group of people interested in him because of his philanthropies. There he made a fine talk. Then he came to my home city of Albuquerque, where he made a perfectly wonderful talk for me that evening.

Afterward I learned that in order to do this he had had to cancel his own rally in the city of Tulsa, one of the largest cities in his State. What he had to do did not compare with what he wanted to do for those people whom he regarded as friends.

He was also a great businessman. We have thorough knowledge of that in my home State of New Mexico. Many companies became interested in the development of uranium, but when Senator KERR put his mind to it great changes took place in the development that he pioneered. Some $16 million was spent by the Kerr-McGee Co. in the development of a great mill. Of far greater interest, probably, to the people of this Nation, is the fact that out of the processes developed in that mill the cost of yellow cake—of uranium put away in processed form—came down substantially. As a matter of fact, the costs in his mill were approximately half of what they were in certain antiquated mills throughout the country, which previously had been supplying the product.

I have many times thought that it would be interesting to calculate that millions upon millions of dollars which his enterprise and genius brought to the American people because of what he did in the development of that one industry alone.

I regarded him as a great Senator. We have all watched the things that he could do.

He and I were assigned, at the beginning of our first terms, to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. In that committee he began to express his great interest in reclamation, in the use of water and in the conservation of water.

Some time after that he called me one day and told me that I was going to Oklahoma City for a meeting of the Arkansas, Red, and White River group. I tried to assure him that I had made no commitment of any kind to go. He assured me that I had. We checked every piece of paper that we could find in my office. There was no single evidence of any kind that I had ever agreed to go.

Nonetheless, I went. I was on his plane that afternoon, because he was determined that I should be there and because of what he was trying to do to make sure that a great development took place.

I made no contribution, except to hold up my hand at the meeting and to say that I was willing to support Senator KERR in everything he had to propose for the development of the water of his State and the conservation of it for use in the future.

There was an Indian problem of great complexity which we considered. That happened to be in the State of the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. Young], who is now in the Chamber. We had a great deal of trouble with it. Members of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs were trying hard to solve it. We were unsuccessful in reaching any formula which seemed to promise any reasonable solution.

Finally the chairman of the committee said to Senator KERR, "Why don't you go out and see if you can bring the contending groups together?" A short time later he reported that an agreement had been reached.

Mr. President, I have no way of knowing how long the Congress would have wrangled over it. I have no way of knowing how long the committee would have debated it. I know it did not take Senator KERR long to dispose of it.

Subsequently, there was introduced in this body a resolution for a water resources survey. I was extremely happy to suggest to the leadership that the Senator from Oklahoma be asked to take charge of it. We had many discussions before he finally agreed, because he had calls on his time. As the Senator from North Dakota pointed out, the results

showed why he had been selected for these important duties. Everywhere he went he met the people of the State he was visiting and had them understand that ultimately the greatest thing that could happen to the Nation would be the development of these water resources. He left the States with the support of the people for water resource conservation and for the things which the water conservation proposal was trying to accomplish. It was not just in the State of North Dakota or the State of Oklahoma; it was everywhere he went that the Senator from Oklahoma had taken the time to acquaint himself with the problems there and what ought to be done about them.

Finally, I would say he was a great friend. Many, many times those of us who knew him well would carry our problems to him.

Sometime last fall I had a period in which I was not feeling particularly well. While in the Finance Committee I went to answer a telephone call. When I came back the Senator from Oklahoma asked me what was the matter. I told him it was a call from my doctor telling me I had no business being in a committee meeting. The Senator from Oklahoma said, "You are going to leave right now." He accompanied me to the door and to the hall and said, "I am going to see that you go home." I went home. He knew that the votes were desperately close on some of the issues he was interested in. He knew I was going to vote with him. But he was more interested in my trying to conserve my health than he was in having enacted legislation with which he was concerned.

So I say he was a good neighbor, a great businessman, a great Senator, and a great man. We will not see many like him in the U.S. Senate.

Remarks by Senator Gore

Of Tennessee

Mr. GORE. Mr. President, the late Senator ROBERT S. KERR was a man among men. I believe he was the quickest witted man I have ever known. He could match wits with the keenest of men in depth of intellect, in quickness of perception, in mirth, in sarcasm, in pathos. He had a capacity for friendship that could survive the keenest rivalry, the strongest of contention.

Early after my coming to the Senate the bonds of friendship were established between Senator KERR and me. These survived mutuality of interest and contention in legislative issues.

One of the keenest debaters that I have ever known, indeed, I believe one of the great debaters this Chamber has ever enjoyed, once crossed swords with BOB KERR with the greatest of trepidation.

I am sure he would think it quite appropriate, even in a eulogy, to recall one bit of mirth which illustrates how difficult it was upon occasion to "get the better of him," so to speak.

Last year, during the debate on the tax bill, the late Senator KERR and I had a particularly vigorous exchange over a considerable period of time on the floor of the Senate. When that debate was concluded, the New York Times requested that Senator KERR and I go to the President's room in order that our photograph might be taken. Mr. President, you can imagine with what alacrity both of us responded. I did not notice, and I am sure he did not notice, that the photographer had posed us with a portrait of George Washington hanging on the wall between us.

It was rather startling, the next morning, to see on the front page of the New York Times a two-column picture of

Senator KERR and me, with the Father of our Country looking seemingly down upon us, big as life.

One of my secretaries called attention to the fact that if one examined the portrait of George Washington carefully, he could see there was a different expression on his face. I found this amusing. I obtained a copy of the picture and sent it to Senator KERR with this note: "Dear BOB: I give you with my compliments a picture of two eminent statesmen who seem to be under the surveillance of the Father of our Country. I hope you will not mind my suggesting that if you examine the portrait closely, George seems to be smiling at me and glowering at you."

Right back came a messenger with this note: "Dear Albert: I thank you for the picture and I agree as to the eminence of the statesmen shown therein, but I suggest you take another and a closer look at George. Can't you tell the difference between smiling and laughing?"

He was a man capable of love—magnanimous love—of his fellow man; a man capable of compassion in the smallest of things, comprehension and dreams of the greatest of events—truly a man among men. To illustrate the quality of being a man among men, let me call attention to one item to which the distinguished and able junior Senator from Oklahoma has already made brief reference.

He referred to the TVA self-financing act. For many years this great publicly owned utility system had been a matter of political contention annually. For 20 years I had regarded as my primary duty, as a Representative and as a Senator, as did the senior Senator from Kentucky for many a year, the obtaining of sufficient appropriations for the TVA to meet the growing demands of the great area which it serves.

Doing that which he was equipped to do better than any man who lived within the valley, Senator KERR brought to enactment the TVA self-financing bill. No longer is TVA a matter of political contention on the floor of either House of Congress. When the people it serves now require more electricity, the TVA in a businesslike way determines the

need for additional generating capacity, locates it in a businesslike way, and sells bonds to raise the revenue in a businesslike way; and now the people are secure in the confidence that this utility system is removed from political contention and will be permitted to thrive and to serve a thriving people.

I said Senator KERR was capable of compassion and faith. He and I enjoyed a mutuality of love of the soil and of cattle. Upon occasion we would walk together upon the green turf. Upon occasion he would speak of his faith in God, his religious convictions, which were deep and profound. Possessed of great talents, great courage, great perception, great vision, his faith was the simple faith of a God-fearing mother and father who had given him parenthood.

To his loving wife, to his three stalwart sons, and to his loving and charming daughter, all of whom I know and call my friends, I extend the deepest sympathy and yet congratulations, because this father and this husband was one of the greatest Senators who has graced this body.

Remarks by Senator McCarthy

Of Minnesota

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. President, the death of Senator ROBERT S. KERR came as a shock to those of us who knew him well.

He was a man of many interests, a man of great strength, a man of great vitality. Senator KERR was a man who, in my judgment, lived in the great tradition of the empire builders of America, a man who dealt with the physical and material structure of America.

Those who served with him on the Finance Committee know that he had respect for finance as something necessary and useful. However, his real goal and delight was to make and build things. He was concerned with cattle and with the land. He was concerned with rivers and with the minerals of his own State, and with the resources of this Nation.

He did not hesitate to penetrate to the very bowels of the earth in order to develop things which might be useful to man; nor did he shy away from exploration in space when that became a challenge to America and a challenge to him.

He was a man of vision. He was not a visionary. His dreams were not idle but, instead, led to planning on almost every occasion.

He was much respected in the Senate. Those who did not know him well, particularly some columnists and commentators, suggested that this respect in the Senate was based more on fear than on affection and real understanding. This was a misrepresentation of the character of Senator KERR and of the attitude toward him of many Members of the Senate.

His basic strength was one which was based on loyalty and affection and respect for his intelligence and on respect for his great effectiveness in the Senate.

There were those who said that he was a compromiser. He would have been the first to admit it. However, his compromises were not compromises with principle, but, rather, with the realities of the day or the realities of history.

He was a genuine realist in the best sense of that word. Indeed, he preferred some progress and some advance to a kind of perpetuation or a perfection of an issue without any achievement.

It was sometimes charged that he was harsh in debate. In a sense, I suppose, sometimes he was. However, that was primarily, I believe, because he was in a hurry on most of the issues. Even so, Mr. President, there was a kind of even-handedness in his harshness. He welcomed all adversaries into battle and treated all of them as though, being Members of the Senate, they were the equal of anyone else and should be prepared for the contest. He believed that every man was to be trusted until he had proved to be untrustworthy; that every man was to be accepted unless he had somehow betrayed his trust.

He was basically, in the real meaning of the word, an optimist. I do not mean that in the sense of one who foolishly or falsely believes that the world necessarily is getting better and better every day, but of one who sincerely believes that when men band together as individuals and exert a great force and exercise their fair judgment and direct their energies to both old and new problems, they can bring about some improvement. This is genuine optimism, which is based, fundamentally, upon the religious virtue of hope.

Senator KERR had a deep respect for the Senate and for its traditions. Through his actions in the Senate and outside the Senate he was a positive force for the building and strengthening of America.

All of us who served with him in the Senate have reason to be grateful for having had occasion to be here with him, and have cause to express our grief and regret at his passing; but at the same time to say to his family, his wife, and his children, that they, too, are honored in the service which he has given to the Senate and to America.

Remarks by Senator Humphrey

Of Minnesota

Mr. HUMPHREY. Mr. President, during time of war we honor those Americans who give their lives for their country on the field of battle. We honor such men, and justly so. Today we have come together to honor three Members of the U.S. Senate who have passed away. But I think it is entirely fitting and proper that we consider the death of Senator KERR, Senator Chavez, and Senator Dworshak as representing the ultimate sacrifice these outstanding Americans have made for their country.

As every colleague in this Chamber well knows, the task of fulfilling the responsibilities of a U.S. Senator with fidelity and devotion demands a total commitment of time and energy. The Senators we honor today certainly made such a commitment. I am quite confident that their unrelenting expenditure of themselves in the service of their country and their States will stand as their supreme sacrifice.

The Senator from Oklahoma, Mr. KERR, was suddenly taken from us at the peak of his career. Every Member of this body was deeply shocked and dismayed at his sudden passing. Truly the Senator from Oklahoma could have looked ahead to many years of the same productive, courageous, and resourceful life that characterized his amazing career.

Each Member of the Senate knows the importance of the late Senator from Oklahoma in the operations of this body. As chairman of the Aeronautical and Space Sciences Committee he took the lead in implementing President Kennedy's pledge to the American people that the United States would be second to no other nation in the quest for outer space. As ranking Democrat on the Committee on Finance he was the principal leader in writing the President's tax proposals into law. As ranking Democrat on the Committee on Public

Works he carried on the responsibilities of the chairman during the absence of the late Senator from New Mexico. The magnitude of these responsibilities only assumes its true proportions when one realizes the humble origins of the Senator from Oklahoma.

Born on September 11, 1896, in the Indian Territory of Oklahoma, the Senator from Oklahoma first viewed the world from the windows of a log cabin. Is there another American of this generation who rose to comparable heights of personal fortune, political success, or national power? I know of no other such American.

He was always a persuasive and faithful advocate for the interests of his State. He was a true and dedicated member of his party. He was honored with the respect of his colleagues in the Senate as few other Senators are. We have lost a great Senator and a great American.

This Nation has truly sustained a great loss with the passing of Senator KERR, Senator Chavez, and Senator Dworshak. The Senator from Minnesota wishes to convey his personal sympathy to the families of these great Americans who are present with us today.

Remarks by Senator Cooper

Of Kentucky

Mr. COOPER. Mr. President, I do not believe I can add very much to the words of my colleagues. I can say that I miss Senator KERR very much, and I shall miss him in the days that lie ahead. Somehow his abilities, personality, and his great powers at times held the Senate and held each one of us enthralled. He had a tremendous capacity for work, a powerful intellect, and a great power of exposition. These and other qualities made him one of the most powerful leaders that the Senate—indeed, the country—has known.

I felt something unusual in his leadership. He had, unquestionably, the type of leadership which because of the very power of his intellect and his force could bring people along with his views.

But I thought also he had that type of leadership which drew people to him. It was hard to be against BOB KERR because of his human qualities. I saw this quality on the floor of the Senate, and in the committees on which I served with him. His human qualities, humor, persuasion, friendship impelled one to want to be with him.

I saw this quality, as it related to members of the staff of the committees and the men and women who served with him in his office. They were most faithful to him and loved him, because he gave them his loyalty and confidence.

I found in him the human quality of kindness and sympathy, and, as others have said, a willingness to help another Member, even though his problem was far from those of his own State.

His wit and his irony could be devastating, but he was very human. I shall never forget one day, sitting in his office, talking with him, when he showed me pictures of his family, and a picture of his father and mother. In talking of them, tears came to his eyes. I was not surprised. Yet, with all

his great force, power, and strength, it was an illustration of his pathos and simplicity.

Remarks by Senator Yarborough

Of Texas

Mr. YARBOROUGH. Mr. President, the death of the senior Senator from Oklahoma, ROBERT S. KERR, is a grievous loss. His was the fabled success story that is so much a part of the living dream of America, the story which sets our country apart from all others. He knew war as a young soldier knows it, troubled peace as a statesman knows it, democracy as one who rose from log cabin to Governor's chair to Senate Chamber knows it, hard work as one who achieved stature in the business world from a standing start knows it.

His loss is not only to Oklahoma, the State he loved and served so well. He was a true friend to my State of Texas, for he was, above all, a man of great intellect and outstanding accomplishment, a man who had vision and the ability to turn vision into reality.

All the Southwest, the vast land that is the wide-open door to future generations of a growing Nation, will miss this strong man and will be forever indebted to him for his interest in bringing water to a thirsty earth, new commerce to an inland haven.

His memory will be kept fresh for generations by his achievements not only for Oklahoma, but in all the Nation. He invigorated his own party, the Democratic Party, in the days of its defeat in the 1950's, with his sharp wit and his great speaking ability. I heard him stir audiences in Dallas, Amarillo, Sweetwater, and other places in my home State of Texas in the first half of the decade of the fifties, at a time when members of his own party were so dispirited that some of the leaders did not want to accept speaking invitations there.

I was with him at the Hayden dinner in Arizona, in 1961, and returned with him on the long, sad trip to Bonham, Tex., for the final rites for our dear friend, the great Speaker of

the House, Sam Rayburn. On that plane trip, I heard him speak of his faith, which was as strong as that of the early settlers of America. He had a deep religious faith.

Senator KERR was a broad-gaged man. In reading the accounts of his life, which were published in many of the newspapers following his death, I saw references to the fact that he used his great position of power to try, perhaps, to control the votes of other Senators. I do not think that was true. That was not my own experience. I differed as sharply with him on subjects such as the communications satellite bill as I ever have with any other Member of the Senate.

Last fall, during the long, tiring days of September and the first half of October, days which I think placed on Senator KERR the great burden which was ultimately to take his life, he worked unstintingly.

Texas was concerned about many water projects. I went to Senator KERR and asked him to give his help on project after project. He placed every single one in the bill. There was not the slightest discrimination, not the slightest hesitancy, not the slightest bit of pettiness in him. He was a broad-gaged man. The fact that I disagreed with him on other major proposed legislation made not one whit of difference in the Committee on Public Works. He considered every project on its merits and decided whether it was sound. That was the kind of broad-gaged man he was.

All of us in this body will miss him. My area of the country will miss him. Our two States of Oklahoma and Texas have a similar outlook about most matters. There are areas in the western portions of our States which are lands of little water. It is that area about which Mr. Justice Holmes said in one Supreme Court decision, "Water is more than an amenity; it is a treasure." It is that part of the country that esteems land and water, and the things that grow on the land and in the water; forests or crop plants by man, where the cattle industry is highly prized, where people think of the elemental things—the minerals in the ground, the crops that grow on it, and the natural things which abound in the earth. It was in that environment that Senator KERR gained his stature as a statesman.

Remarks by Senator Bible

Of Nevada

Mr. BIBLE. Mr. President, the longer one is a Member of this body the more he becomes aware of the bond of fraternalism which exists in an area that could, because of its very makeup, be a setting for dissention and acrimony. The pervasive warmth of that bond is always present, yet it becomes even more pronounced during those times of tragedy when death removes a colleague from our ranks.

ROBERT KERR, of Oklahoma, one of the three great Senators who have passed to their reward recently, and whom today we eulogize, was a stalwart defender of the highest traditions of this great body. Significantly, he, as did the others, had a humble beginning.

Although I never had the privilege of serving on a Senate committee with BOB KERR, I did enjoy the pleasure of his warm friendship. I recall vividly an occasion a few years back—it was a campaign year for me, in fact—when I asked BOB KERR to come to Nevada to address the Democratic State convention. He agreed with his usual heartiness, and delivered a speech that set the tone for one of the liveliest conventions in my State's history. A man of limitless ability, he also possessed the oratorical skill to drive home his points with the clarity of a bell and the punch of a jackhammer, In the passing of BOB KERR, the Nation lost an able servant and the Senate has been deprived of one of its most colorful personalities.

Remarks by Senator Russell

Of Georgia

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. President, there is a small three-letter word which describes every dimension of ROBERT S. KERR, his philosophy and his career. All those who knew him know that word is "big."

BOB KERR was a big man physically, and in his leonine head there hummed the wheels of a tremendous intellect.

His heart was as big as his body; and it was a diversified heart. It was big in the courage to meet conflict or to deal with danger, and it was big in compassion to deal with those he encountered along the road of life who had suffered the vicissitudes of fortune—the humble and the broken.

He thought in big terms. His plans for his private life were big, and they brought a financial success that was one of the notable contributions to the history of the opportunities which are afforded by our form of government.

His plans for his beloved Oklahoma and for our Nation were big enough to encompass the whole horizon.

BOB KERR did nothing halfway. He was big in his affection for his family and for those who were fortunate enough to enjoy the priceless boon of his friendship. Only those know how big was his capacity for friendship.

Candor compels me to say, Mr. President, that he could be big in the retribution he showered upon any who happened to incur his wrath, either on the political hustings or in this forum where we are today.

BOB KERR and I became fast friends within a few days after his services here commenced, and I have never enjoyed a sweeter or more satisfying friendship. We seemed to understand each other completely.

There were a few, rare occasions when we disagreed on some matters; but he knew what I was thinking, without discussing it; and I knew the conclusions and the processes

which led him to his positions; and we did not even have to discuss them. We understood each other completely.

BOB KERR was a big man in the U.S. Senate. A log cabin may have been the place of his birth, but he was born to be a big leader of men.

He enjoyed conflict, either in committee or here on the floor of the Senate; and he enjoyed it and dealt with it in a big way.

BOB KERR was proud of the U.S. Senate; and no one guarded it more jealously, to assure that the Senate would not be demeaned or that there would be no diminution of the big place which the Founding Fathers intended to have the Senate play in our scheme of government, when they hammered out the Constitution in Philadelphia in 1787.

Mr. President, the passing of such a figure naturally creates a big void in this body. BOB KERR'S fine mind will be sorely missed in the days ahead.

I mourn the loss of a personal friend and a comrade at arms in many legislative struggles. For me the Senate will never be exactly the same without BOB KERR. Sometimes I feel almost as if some part of myself is missing, when I look across to where he sat in this Chamber and do not get the look of reassurance that sustained me so many times.

One of my most prized possessions is a letter written in his own hand, on the back of a piece of gaily colored Christmas wrapping paper—a letter which he wrote to me from the hospital, about 2 days before he passed away. The letter was written in answer to a little note I had written him.

Mr. President, I regret that I cannot comfort his family. But I cannot, because I feel so bereaved that I cannot comfort myself. I can say to them—and I say it also to the thousands of people in this country, from horny-handed sons of toil to masters of finance and business, all of whom trusted and loved and followed BOB KERR—that I deeply grieve with them at the passing of this big American.

Remarks by Senator Miller

Of Iowa

Mr. MILLER. Mr. President, so many fine things have been written and said about Senator ROBERT KERR that it would be presumptuous of me to try to add anything. However, I do want to say that it was my privilege to have served with him and to have become well acquainted with him. He was helpful to me, as a new Member of the Senate, on a number of occasions; and he was always warm and cordial. One of his great loves was for the Aberdeen Angus strain of livestock; and when he learned that I had a bronze model of a Hereford bull on my desk, he was quick to make sure that I had a Black Angus model to stand beside it.

BOB KERR was a tireless and effective worker for the State he represented. Indeed, it was his great love for work, and for battle, too, that weakened his magnificent constitution during the last session of Congress to such an extent that Oklahoma lost one of her greatest citizens. We will miss him. Mrs. Miller and I extend our most profound sympathy to Mrs. Kerr and the family.

Remarks by Senator Dirksen

Of Illinois

Mr. DIRKSEN. Mr. President, ROBERT S. KERR, affectionately known to his colleagues as BOB, was one of the most amazing men I have ever known and certainly one of the most unselfish and spectacular Members to ever grace the U.S. Senate.

From the log cabin where he was born to his last mortal moments in the hospital where he passed to eternal rest here in the Nation's Capital, in which he had served with such distinction, his life was in the frontier tradition and epitomized the essence of America—a free land where opportunity was open to all and where there were no limits to the goals which an individual could achieve.

His career in public service as a member of the legislature, and as Governor of his own State and as a U.S. Senator was in itself a major achievement for any man, and what he accomplished for his State and his country constitutes a great and epic story.

But with all these accomplishments there was also his vast operations in the field of livestock farming, land reclamation, with improved techniques and his contribution toward the productivity of American agriculture.

His achievements, however, do not stop there. He became, in fact, one of the great leaders in the petroleum and gas industry, and his efforts were of such dimensions as to set him apart as one of the outstanding men of this generation.

But BOB KERR was never so busy that he did not have time for his God. Friends who knew him best can testify to his deep and unremitting devotion to his church. He exemplified in the highest degree those four precious words in the preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion, which recite "for God and country." It was not merely his bene-

factions in sharing with the Lord but his work in advancing the Christian cause. Not only did he pray for the advancement of the Lord's kingdom, but he did something about it.

Was there a secret weapon in BOB KERR's life which made his accomplishments possible? There was. In fact, there were two. One was his unfaltering faith and the other his amazing capacity for doing his homework well. Every Senator can testify to BOB KERR's skill and ability in handling the most abstruse and complicated legislation on the Senate floor.

He was a great and happy warrior who fought in the great causes of his time and fell in battle at a moment when his skill, his ability, and capacity were and are so sorely needed by this Republic.

Remarks by Senator Smith

Of Maine

Mrs. SMITH. Mr. President, it was my privilege to serve on the Senate Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences when the late ROBERT S. KERR was chairman of that committee. Although I was not the ranking minority member of the committee during that time, Chairman KERR treated me as though I was.

This may have stemmed from the fact that the ranking minority member was also the ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on the Judiciary and consequently with such heavy official duties did not have the time to take from them for the Space Committee that I would have.

Whether it was this factor or not, this much is certain and true. No other committee chairman ever extended to me the consideration that Senator KERR did.

This, of course, would prejudice me very much in his favor. It might well have prompted greater tolerance on my part toward him when we differed so very basically on some issues like the 27½-percent oil depletion allowance that he so stoutly defended and I have sought for years to pare down.

But I know that it was not that. I know that it was because BOB KERR had two deep-seated characteristics which made him the dynamic, effective power that he was in the Senate—characteristics for which I admire him so much.

In the first place, he was a fighter for what he believed in and for his State of Oklahoma and his constituency. He pulled no punches, and no one ever had to guess where he stood. There was nothing ambivalent about him—and because he refused to play the role of expedient political ambivalence, he made many bitter enemies. Perhaps that, in itself, was his most impressive hallmark of leadership.

In the second place, he was not a man motivated by narrow political partisanship. As a Democrat, he did not automatically view all Republicans as enemies. Nor did he permit his economic views to control his attitude toward those of his colleagues who held opposite views.

Of this I had very personal knowledge. In 1954 when I was first running for reelection, oil millionaires sent money into Maine in an attempt to defeat me. One reason they did was because of my opposition to the 27½-percent depletion allowance—on which Senator KERR was their champion defender.

In spite of this and even though I am a Republican, Senator KERR came to me and said that though we disagreed on many issues and were of opposing political parties, he wanted to see me returned to, and remain in, the U.S. Senate because I did not hesitate to speak my mind. In doing so, he offered to contribute to my campaign funds. I thanked him but declined to accept any contribution from him.

And I continued my opposition to the oil depletion allowance for the next 6 years—and still do.

When I was running for my third term in 1960, Senator KERR came to me and said that he did not like what members of his own Democratic Party were attempting to do to me—that whatever I needed to finance my campaign he would be happy to provide himself. Again I thanked him but declined to accept any contribution from him.

My opposition to matters dear to him—such as the oil depletion allowance—made no difference to him. My being a Republican made no difference to him.

I am certain that many other persons witnessed this trait in him. But individuals are of no importance and significance. What is important is that rare trait of a person being able to disagree and yet remain a friend—that rare trait of not judging individuals in terms of narrow partisanship or political prejudice.

ROBERT S. KERR had that rare trait in abundance. His death is a great loss to me in the Senate. It is a loss of strength to me. But more important is that it is a loss of

strength to the entire U.S. Senate and to our country. It is irreplaceable.

I am sure that no one knows this better than President Kennedy. For ROBERT S. KERR opposed President Kennedy on issues in the Senate and beat him—and yet it was ROBERT S. KERR that the President looked to for legislative victories on many matters and on which ROBERT S. KERR delivered magnificently.

Here again was his rare trait of not permitting deep differences on some issues prevent him from friendship and performance for the President of the United States.

Remarks by Senator Pastore

Of Rhode Island

Mr. PASTORE. Mr. President, the year 1963 was new—and suddenly it was old. Senator ROBERT S. KERR had passed away.

Something is gone from this Senate, something of the challenge, something of the fervor of debate and the firmness of argument. There is gone from us that dramatic moment when BOB KERR would slowly rise to his full height and slowly raise his voice to its full power in the heat and heart of his cause.

All this is missing because BOB KERR is not here; all too suddenly gone from our midst.

I stood at his interment with those who heard the words of his neighbors; neighbors who had known his growth from log cabin limitations to the majesty of a majestic business empire; neighbors who knew him as the good neighbor and God-fearing man.

I would here borrow from my words addressed to his dear ones at that moment.

BOB KERR gave character and courage to his every role in public life with a gift to sharpen with wit and to soften with human warmth the discussions out of which democracy works its destiny.

It was a privilege to be his colleague, it was a pleasure to share some of his purposes, and it was even delightful, at times, when one differed with him, for he was always an inspiration and invitation to outspoken Americanism.

BOB KERR'S memory will long live in the Halls of the Senate, and I am sure it will be an enduring pride in those he loved so deeply.

May a country's appreciation be of comfort to them in their loss as each of us adds his own humble sentiments of sorrow and sense of loss.

Remarks by Senator Javits

Of New York

Mr. JAVITS. Mr. President, in ROBERT KERR many of us in the Senate met a powerful figure, physically and intellectually. When we were on opposite sides of an issue, he was a formidable adversary, but when we were on the same side, he was an equally formidable ally. New York State owes him a great debt of gratitude for his role as architect of the Niagara power project. Robert Moses and I had discussed plans to invite BOB KERR to tour the Niagara power project later this year; and with Senator KERR's approval, we were going to have a Robert Kerr Day in which the Niagara community would participate. We in New York regret that BOB KERR did not live to have a firsthand look at that project in operation, as he would have been proud of the role he played in having it developed.

ROBERT KERR was indeed one of the alltime giants of the Senate.

Remarks by Senator Muskie

Of Maine

Mr. MUSKIE. Mr. President, none of us who served with Senator KERR will soon forget his forceful presence in this body. His intelligence, wit, perception, and determination brought him to a unique position as one of the giants of the Senate.

Today I pay tribute to his memory as a man who understood other men, a Senator who grasped the potential of this institution, and a citizen who did not hesitate to battle for those values he held dear. All of us have much to learn from his example.

Remarks by Senator Carlson

Of Kansas

Mr. CARLSON. Mr. President, the Nation and the U.S. Senate lost one of its great leaders in the death of ROBERT KERR. BOB, as he was affectionately known by all of us, was a man of great ability and great courage. He was truly an optimist and a man of vision. To him the sun always seemed to shine through the clouds. He was a big man and he made big plans for his personal life, for his State, and for his Nation.

There was nothing small about BOB KERR. He had an abiding faith in his God and his Creator. Never at any time did he hesitate to confess this faith. He was an active Christian layman and his work in the church and the Sunday school will continue to bear fruit for decades to come.

BOB KERR owed much to Oklahoma and the great West and he never forgot to keep that in mind when considering problems of the Midwest.

It was my privilege to have been closely associated with him in working for the best interests of our States and Nation. We were very close friends, and his death was a personal loss to me.

It was my privilege to introduce him at a meeting in Wichita, Kans., just a few days before he left for Washington where he was stricken. This was one of his last great public meetings. His subject was soil and water conservation—a field in which he was recognized as our greatest conservationist. The soil and water conservation projects that he sponsored in Oklahoma and the Nation will stand as living monuments to his service.

BOB KERR was devoted to his family, and Mrs. Carlson and I want to extend our sincerest and deepest sympathy to Mrs. Kerr and the family.

Remarks by Senator Kuchel

Of California

Mr. KUCHEL. Mr. President, with very great pride I called the late ROBERT SAMUEL KERR, senior Senator from Oklahoma, a dear friend. And with very great sorrow, my wife and I express to his family our heartfelt condolences on their tragic loss.

BOB'S passing, however, was far more than a personal one for those who called him husband and father. Oklahoma lost a preeminent Senator. And the Nation, particularly the Senate of the United States, lost one of its great citizens and Senators. I never ceased to marvel at BOB KERR'S intellectual capacity. He was a truly brilliant person—greater than most and as great as any. Fully armed in every Senate debate, there was no more powerful adversary ever to sit in this Chamber, skillful, colorful, and persuasive.

The late Senator KERR was an imposing example of the American success story. From humble beginnings, he became one of the most successful businessmen in the Nation. But he devoted himself, in what was far more important, to his family, his church, and his Nation, in a tireless and unselfish fashion. He loved his family, his dear wife and his children. I remember the moving eulogies uttered to his memory in his church in Oklahoma City, where the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, and many of us from the Congress, gathered to mourn his passing. There were plain people in attendance at those final ceremonies. They came to share the sorrow of all who knew him, rich and poor, high and low, in the sudden conclusion of his span of life.

BOB KERR was my friend. I am most proud that I may say that. But my relations with him were not unique. For his friendship with his fellow man, in and out of the Senate, was a constantly enlarging and happy circle, and those who

take part today in these eulogies, share a common pride that the circle included all of them.

Remarks by Senator Hruska

Of Nebraska

Mr. HRUSKA. Mr. President, the death of ROBERT S. KERR has deprived the Senate of the United States of one of its most vibrant personalities. BOB KERR's strong character was felt in this Chamber even though he might have sat quietly at his desk, an observer, rather than a participant in the debate.

This Chamber will always remain a little empty without him. It was not just his size or his booming voice or his hearty manner which made him so vital. It was his forthright devotion to his service here for the people of Oklahoma—a service he regarded as a dedicated trust.

It was my good fortune to have served with Senator KERR on the Public Works Committee and later on the Appropriations Committee of which he was an ex officio member. We had our differences just about as often the issues found us on the same side. No one could have a more capable opponent—or a more loyal ally.

BOB KERR placed loyalty at the top of his list of virtues. He worked diligently at the notion that loyalty runs two ways.

Though he may have appeared somewhat bluff and direct, particularly here in this area of debate in which he reveled, all of us who were proud to count him a friend know that he was gentle, tolerant, and considerate. Few of us here have not profited by some sound and sage advice from Senator KERR.

I well recall an appearance by BOB KERR on the television program "Meet the Press." Perhaps my recollection of the words is inexact but they may well form the proper epitaph for ROBERT S. KERR. He was asked about his lack of support of the President on a specific national issue. I shall never forget his reply. It was:

I love the President of the United States, but I love the people of Oklahoma more.

In this way did he express pithily his devotion to the people of his State and his deep belief in the concept of truly representative government.

Remarks by Senator Randolph

Of West Virginia

Mr. RANDOLPH. Mr. President, the first week of this year brought a severe and unexpected shock to each of us and to America with the knowledge of the passing of the late Senator ROBERT S. KERR.

Senator KERR was the kind of man who does not often pass our way. Even in such a body of individualists as this, the force of his presence and personality laid special claim to one's attention.

None was more formidable in debate, giving no quarter and asking none. And there are few, if any, Members who joined in debate with BOB KERR who did not feel the imprint of his agile mind and the occasional bite of his acid wit.

But, though Senator KERR was perhaps more widely noted for his skill as a debater, his greatest services were rendered as a mediator and conciliator of what to others would seem to be irreconcilable positions. Nowhere was this more evident than in the demonstration of his leadership as conference chairman of the omnibus public works bill in the 87th Congress. Out of an apparently hopeless deadlock between the two bodies in the late hours of the 87th Congress, Senator KERR brought forth a measure that won support on both sides of Capitol Hill.

Though it is a grievous loss to those of us who were his colleagues and friends, to the State of Oklahoma, and to the Nation to have BOB KERR taken at the peak of his powers and prowess, we may truly say that no one lived more fully during the time allotted him. His tremendous zest for life seemed almost to assume the proportions of a force of nature.

This quality of BOB KERR may be best expressed, I believe, by reference to a line written by the philosopher, William James, to his sister on the occasion of his purchasing a sum-

mer home. He exclaimed with joy that it had "14 doors and they all open outward." Such was the world of Bob Kerr—an open universe with many doors, all opening out.

Remarks by Senator Curtis

Of Nebraska

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. President, BOB KERR was a fighter, and I like fighters.

In legislative battles the side that had the help of BOB KERR was happy. If he was on the opposing side it often caused alarm.

Much will be said today about the success story of our late departed friend. He went to the top in his profession, in business, in politics, as a citizen, and in his church. I wish to associate myself with all of the laudatory things that are said about him today.

I wish to extend to Mrs. Kerr and to all the family the sincere sympathy of Mrs. Curtis and myself.

Remarks by Senator Smathers

Of Florida

Mr. SMATHERS. Mr. President, it is customary at times such as this to comment on the lives and work of those Members of this great body who are no longer with us. The great tragedy to me is that our departed colleagues cannot be in this Chamber today to hear our expressions of admiration and affection which all too often go unsaid during their lifetimes.

The U.S. Senate is sometimes referred to as the "most exclusive club in Washington." In the sense that I cannot think of any other body of only 100 members representing over 188 million people, perhaps this is so. And being a comparatively small body and working closely together it is inevitable that we form strong bonds of friendship and respect for the positions which we have sworn to carry out.

The great English poet, John Donne, wrote that "any man's death diminishes me" and when death takes a respected Senator and great statesman the loss to mankind is much more than just this.

The new year, as we all know, opened on a very sad note. The untimely death of Senator ROBERT S. KERR was a shock and source of grief to all of us. I can think of no other man who possessed such vitality or who enjoyed living as did BOB KERR. It is still hard to believe that his figure will no longer be seen entering the Chamber doors or his resonant and articulate voice heard on the Senate floor.

But more than just an admired and respected colleague, BOB KERR was a true and devoted friend whose death came as a great personal loss to me. His advice and assistance were always welcomed because I knew they were based on sound judgment and unfailing loyalty. I do not think that anyone can quite fill his shoes, for I know of no man who possesses as many outstanding and unique qualities as he did.

Senator KERR was also well known for his unlimited capacity for hard work and his brilliant and incisive mind which enabled him to grasp and comprehend the most difficult problems in every area of legislation.

I am reminded of an incident last year which occurred following a Finance Committee meeting where we were struggling with a particularly complex and complicated piece of legislation. While walking out of the committee room after what seemed a trying and interminable session, another colleague on the committee came up to me and said:

You know George, one Senator tends to evaluate things in terms of acres and you have to be explained things according to tourists or oranges, but BOB KERR is the only man I know who can understand everything in terms of anything.

I will not attempt to go into Senator KERR's extensive personal, business, or public accomplishments as I know my Senate colleagues have and shall continue to do this much more eloquently than I.

In closing, I recall that when BOB KERR ran for the Senate in 1948 he adopted the campaign slogan "Land, Wood, and Water," which turned from a political catchword into his credo for championing the needs and interests of his fellow Oklahomans. When he became chairman of the Senate Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences, he added the word "space" to his slogan. Since it has been said that man is immortal as long as his name or his works are remembered by the living, I would like to suggest that today Senator ROBERT KERR's slogan be further enlarged to "Land, Wood, Water, Space, and Immortality."

Remarks by Senator Prouty

Of Vermont

Mr. PROUTY. Mr. President—

> The tumult and the shouting dies,
> The captains and the kings depart.

Thus, Mr. President, wrote Rudyard Kipling in 1897.

Thus, could Rudyard Kipling have written today on the passing of ROBERT S. KERR, late Senator from Oklahoma.

BOB KERR was a big man, with a big voice—with big abilities commensurate with his big ideas. He was a man with great power, great prestige, and great presence.

Perhaps no man in recent times was more able in the Senate to make his presence felt, and to accomplish more in the way of legislation in which he believed than was BOB KERR. He possessed an extraordinary breadth of knowledge, and a tremendous capacity to translate that knowledge into action.

Certainly he shouted; surely he was in the midst of tumult. And no man was, in recent times, more effective in the use of his talents.

BOB KERR was no king, for kings are not born in log cabins. But, BOB KERR was a leader.

I served on the Committee on Public Works with BOB KERR for the first 4 years of my present term in the Senate. I can assure every Senator that each of the moments in our committee sessions was no more dull than every minute which held BOB KERR on the floor of the Senate.

We shall not soon see again a legislator so effective in the manner of Senator ROBERT S. KERR, of Oklahoma.

Remarks by Senator Metcalf

Of Montana

Mr. METCALF. Mr. President, I join my colleagues today in paying tribute to a Senator who was a great and distinguished Member of this body.

Although I have only been a Member of the Senate for a short while, my acquaintance with Senator KERR dates back to the time he came to Montana in the campaign of 1948. His charm and ability captivated the Montanans who heard him, and he had substantial support for the nomination for President from the Montana Democratic delegation to the Democratic National Convention. BOB KERR'S name is still a legend, in the areas where he spoke in Montana and the grief at his untimely death was real and moving.

Since coming to Congress, and especially since I came to the Senate 2 years ago, I had the privilege of working with Senator KERR in one of his favorite fields, conservation and development of America's water resources.

Senator KERR was one of the first legislators that I have had the opportunity to observe. He had an intuition about legislation that was only matched by the incomparable Speaker Rayburn. He used his great abilities and his skill in the public interest for the advancement of a legislative legacy that will be a memorial to him for many years ahead.

It was a distinction to have worked with Senator KERR. It was a pleasure to observe him at work. I am honored to have had the opportunity to serve with him. He will be sorely missed.

Remarks by Senator Cotton

Of New Hampshire

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, running through every word and every thought uttered on this solemn occasion by the friends and colleagues of ROBERT KERR is the same basic theme. The force and power of his personality impressed itself upon each one of us as it did on any group or any assembly in which he served through his long and crowded career. He was a man of strong convictions with a lightning mind and a rapierlike tongue to express them. In debate he was almost invincible so that a stranger in the gallery or a new colleague whose acquaintance with him had been brief would consider him almost cruel in the ruthless way that he riddled his opponents' arguments, lashing them with powerful eloquence. Yet, as we came to know him we found a warm and affectionate friend who had not one ounce of venom or bitterness in his heart. He reveled in a battle of wits. Yet, he spoke without anger.

In the first years of my Senate service, I served with him on the Committee on Public Works. I well remember one occasion as we were sitting about the table waiting for a quorum to assemble when one Member mentioned a departed colleague and expressed regret that his last contact with his friend had been in the heat of Senate debate. BOB KERR leaned back in his chair and recited these words:

> These clumsy feet, still in the mire,
> Go crushing blossoms without end;
> These hard, well-meaning hands we thrust
> Among the heartstrings of a friend.
> The ill-timed truth we might have kept
> Who knows how sharp it pierced and stung!
> The word we had not sense to say—
> Who knows how grandly it had rung!

It impressed me so much that I asked him to send me a copy of the quotation which I have always kept. It told me

much of the warm affection which he had for all his friends and which I am thankful I enjoyed through the years, both on the Public Works Committee and later with him on the Committee on Finance.

He fell suddenly at the height of his power in the Senate and at a time when he was most needed. Yet in that there is one consolation. He will always live among us in all his strength and power. There can never be a memory of fading faculties and slackening strength that comes with age. We unite with his loved ones in mourning him today, but we can say in the words of the poet who wrote of "An Athlete Dying Young":

> Now you will not swell the rout
> Of lads that wore their honors out,
> Runners whom renown outran
> And the name died before the man.

Remarks by Senator Beall

Of Maryland

Mr. BEALL. Mr. President, when historians of the future look back on this era, they will see throughout our land the indelible footprints of a relatively small band of giants who towered over their fellow men in ability, in leadership, in patriotism, and in devotion to duty.

Because of these men, our Nation has continued to grow and prosper.

Because of these men, we have preserved our treasured heritage and have enriched it for the benefit of future generations.

Yes, Mr. President, giants have left their unmistakable marks on this, our present age, and among their number was the late ROBERT S. KERR, who was our esteemed colleague from Oklahoma.

Senator KERR was truly a giant in every possible manner—in the scope of his interests, in the magnitude of his philanthropies, in the plenitude of his knowledge, and in the extent of his devotion to the welfare of the Nation he loved so well.

With Senator KERR's death, we in this body have lost a memorable friend; the citizens of his State and our Nation have lost a powerful, a dynamic, and a devoted public servant.

Remarks by Senator McGee

Of Wyoming

Mr. McGEE. Mr. President, it is always a sad occasion when this body sets aside a day for eulogies for departed colleagues. The three men we remember today were all from the West and exemplified those virtues which developed the West and have made it the region of the future. They had courage to face new challenges, determination to overcome all obstacles, and a vision of a better life for those who would follow them.

The late Senator from Oklahoma, Mr. KERR, was a dynamic example of the American dream. He had the distinction, now a political rarity, of being born in a log cabin. His origins were humble, but his ambitions proud. He was a living example of the dictum that success comes to those who are willing to work for it.

Senator KERR worked long and hard for the people of his State, his region, and Nation. I had the good fortune to serve with him on the Select Committee on Water Resources. That committee spent many hours considering what is and will be for many years one of our Nation's most perplexing problems—the development of water resources to match our population and economic growth. No one worked harder, no one was more concerned that the people of our Nation should not be deprived of the necessity of adequate water than was Senator ROBERT KERR. And this singular devotion to the cause at hand could as easily have been applied to a myriad of other projects to which he devoted his efforts. Mr. President, ROBERT KERR was a man who could get things done. He will be sorely missed in the U.S. Senate.

Remarks by Senator Fong

Of Hawaii

Mr. FONG. Mr. President, last year the Senate was in a state of perpetual mourning as, one by one, five of our colleagues fell victim to the grim reaper. It was a terrible toll, and sorrow was heaped upon sorrow. Among those whose loss we grieve is the late senior Senator from Oklahoma, my friend BOB KERR.

He was a giant of a man, who possessed a mentality to match. He had a capacity to grasp the most complex problems, to cut through the mass and the maze of irrelevancy to get to the heart of a matter and to manage difficult legislation in committee, on this floor, and in conference.

One could not be long in his presence without sensing the force of his strong personality. He had a natural proclivity for leadership, and he never was one to shirk his leadership responsibility.

Since coming to the Senate in August 1959, I had the opportunity to serve on the Public Works Committee with BOB KERR and to observe him in action. We worked particularly closely on the Subcommittee on Flood Control-Rivers and Harbors last year, where he demonstrated over and over again his ability to accomplish the impossible. He confounded the pessimists who predicted there would be no omnibus public works bill enacted before adjournment last fall. As a consequence, many essential projects all over America are one step nearer realization.

BOB KERR was a Senator who had an enormous capacity for hard work. He made certain he did his homework, so that in legislative skirmishes he proved always to be both a worthy protagonist and a worthy antagonist. We all knew that, if we challenged him, we had better be prepared to defend our point of view. Nowhere did he show his mettle more clearly than in the debates last year on the tax bill and on medicare for the aged.

Bob Kerr possessed a great competitive spirit. When he undertook a task, he determined to be successful, to win the struggle.

During his lifetime, he won the economic struggle from poverty to plenty. He won the political struggle to high office in the U.S. Congress. His notable business and public careers attest to his ability to win.

But there is one battle all of us must lose someday. That Bob Kerr should have lost this ultimate struggle for the breath of life in his very prime saddens us all. We in the Senate are the poorer for the loss of his rare skills and his informed guidance.

To his beloved wife and family Ellyn and I extend our heartfelt condolences. May the Almighty comfort you in your bereavement.

Remarks by Senator Jordan

Of North Carolina

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. President, it is impossible for the friends and colleagues of Senator KERR to find words to adequately describe how much he meant to us and the extent to which the Nation will miss him.

The story of BOB KERR'S life is the story of America. Through hard work, ingenuity, and determination he started from meager beginnings and worked his way to the highest peaks.

Many men have done this, but few demonstrated the wide range of abilities that BOB KERR possessed. A keen businessman, a skillful legislator, a respected leader—all apply to BOB KERR. But he was more than these things, too. He was a warm, understanding human being who enjoyed working with and for people. This quality showed through all that Senator KERR did, and it enabled him to accomplish what all men dream of and what few men realize.

Regardless of what the contest was, BOB KERR was the kind of man everybody wanted on their side. When he undertook a job he went all the way, and he knew exactly where he was going and how to get there.

As for myself, the highest tribute I can pay to BOB KERR is the fact that I called on no one for advice and counsel more than I did Senator KERR. I deeply respected his wisdom, his knowledge, and his understanding.

We know that we must go on without BOB KERR, but only time will make us realize how much we miss him.

Remarks by Senator Morton

Of Kentucky

Mr. MORTON. Mr. President, I join with my colleagues in paying deserved tribute to the late, great Senator from Oklahoma, ROBERT S. KERR. There is no need for my detailing his great accomplishments in serving the people of his State and the people of his country.

Before I came to the Senate, I developed a great respect for BOB KERR. During my years of service with him in this body, this respect continued to grow and along with it, a very real personal friendship. Although we sat on different sides of the aisle and often disagreed, I still never lost my respect for his judgment or the position that he took. I am bold enough to say that he in turn respected my judgment as being sincere even though at variance with his own point of view.

I rarely saw BOB KERR except in connection with our legislative duties. Nevertheless, one of the most enriching experiences of my life was our friendship developed here in the Capitol, on the floor of the Senate, in committee, in conference. To me our friendship was one of those extra values of legislative service which I shall always treasure.

BOB KERR was a warm, sympathetic man. He had charm, he had humor, and he had great intellectual capacity. His penetrating mind could get to the heart of the problem without being lost in peripheral details. His contributions to his State which he loved and served so well and his country which he loved and served so well are too many to enumerate here. His untimely death was a real loss to Oklahoma, the country, and the Senate of the United States.

I join with my colleagues in extending to Mrs. Kerr and all members of the family my deepest sympathy.

Remarks by Senator Bartlett

Of Alaska

Mr. BARTLETT. It is my sad purpose today, Mr. President, to speak of the loss of three Senators and three friends.

The Senate will not be the same place without BOB KERR, Henry Dworshak, and Dennis Chavez. All Senators will take their passing as both a personal and national loss.

The senior Senator from Oklahoma, Mr. KERR, served in the Senate for close to 15 years. During this period he served the people of his State with attention, intelligence, and devotion. No State has ever had better representation in this body than that received by Oklahoma from the late Senator. In recent years the Senator's leadership and clear ability elevated him to a position of great importance in this body as ranking member of both Finance and Public Works Committees and as chairman of the Space Committee. ROBERT KERR was in a position to serve his Nation as also his State. He served his Nation well.

No better illustration may be given of his ability and skill than that offered by his leadership of the controversial tax bill in the last session of the Congress.

Mr. President, the President of the United States, the Nation, this Senate and especially the people of Oklahoma have reason to mourn the passing of ROBERT KERR.

Remarks by Senator Bennett

Of Utah

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, knowing BOB KERR was an adventure like a first trip into new country. Viewed from afar, his life's landscape could seem almost overwhelming in its size and ruggedness, but to those who were privileged to watch him at close range, this ruggedness was broken up by much that had sweet and kindly beauty. Though most people associate him with wealth, oil and power, he believed that his greatest contribution was measured in the title of a book he wrote—"Land, Wood, and Water," which was inscribed on the gold clasp he wore around his tie.

Essentially, BOB KERR'S life was built upon a foundation of great simplicity reflected in the fundamentalism of his religion. At the same time he was a man of great versatility and striking contrasts. He had a deep loyalty to whatever and whomever he loved, including his family, Oklahoma, and oil, but he found keen delight in all-out combat with those who challenged these loyalties. He could be a generous and effective ally, as well as a resourceful foe.

He had a great facility in the use of words. They came easily to him, and he could use them with great skill—to tell a story, to sell an idea, to charm or entertain an audience, to pray, to plead, or as weapons with which to strike an opponent down.

BOB KERR was a strong man, prodigal with his energy and strength. When we adjourned last year, all of us would have said his reserves of energy, like those of the oil of Oklahoma, were inexhaustible. Looking back now, we realize that he never spared himself and therefore can understand why he fell suddenly.

Toward the end of his career, the newsmen began to call him "the uncrowned king of the Senate," as though he loved

power for its own sake. To me, this is a sad misjudgment. I feel instead he acted always to increase his capacity to serve the causes that he loved.

The Senate is poorer for his passing.

Remarks by Senator McNamara

Of Michigan

Mr. McNAMARA. Mr. President, the sudden passing of our colleague—Senator ROBERT S. KERR, of Oklahoma—came as a great shock to all of us.

We lost not only a good friend, but an excellent Senator, as well. He will be sorely missed by his family, his country, his State, and the Senate, where he had served since 1949.

I had the pleasure of working closely with Senator KERR during the past 8 years as we served together on the Senate Public Works Committee.

I quickly developed a great respect for his ability and his integrity, and I valued his friendship very highly.

BOB KERR was a powerful advocate of what he thought was right.

The contributions he made to the fields of conservation and public works and to the legislative records of this body will be his lasting monuments.

There is no one among us who was more dedicated to the preservation and proper utilization of our Nation's vast natural resources.

The work that Senator KERR did in the field of water resources, for example, will be long remembered and will pay vast dividends in the years ahead.

Our greatest tribute to BOB KERR, I believe, would be to carry on the programs and policies which he started.

To his family, at this time, I would like to extend my sincere condolences.

Remarks by Senator Moss

Of Utah

Mr. MOSS. Mr. President, it was my privilege to serve both on the Senate Public Works Committee and on the Select Committee on National Water Resources with Senator ROBERT S. KERR, and I came to respect both his great mind and his great heart.

All of us would like to think that during our tenure in the U.S. Senate we became experts in at least one, and perhaps two or three fields. But BOB KERR managed to become an expert in everything he touched.

I am sure it is safe to say that he handled as many major bills on the Senate floor in these past few years as any other Member, and he was well versed in the subject matter of each. I can see him now, standing at his Senate desk, every muscle at attention as he waited to parry and turn aside with wit and eloquence every objection to the measure at issue—ready to answer from the great depths of his knowledge every question raised against it. He was a commanding figure and one we in the Senate shall not soon forget.

I personally will never forget his many kindnesses to me—the times he helped me with legislation or projects in which I was interested. He was a good friend—and it is hard to believe that this great heart has been stilled. The Senate will never be quite the same without BOB KERR.

Remarks by Senator Talmadge

Of Georgia

Mr. TALMADGE. Mr. President, I consider it a distinct honor to have known ROBERT S. KERR and to have served with him in the Senate of the United States and on the Senate Finance Committee.

I am deeply saddened by his passing.

In many respects, BOB KERR was one of the most remarkable men I ever knew. He was gifted with the quickest mind—the most inquisitive and retentive mind—that I ever saw in action on the floor of the Senate, in the committee room, or anywhere else.

Anyone who ever met him in debate can attest to the fact that as a forceful defender or advocate of a cause, Senator KERR was without peer.

Why? Because he made it his business to know what he was talking about. Because he always spoke with the authority of one who has done his homework. Because the Senator from Oklahoma asked no quarter and gave none.

When BOB KERR spoke, all men listened, sometimes perhaps with disagreement, but always with respect. He commanded a memory I have yet to see matched. Nothing escaped this man.

Depending upon what the occasion called for, BOB KERR could bring to bear a great wit or a great solemnity, a sweet tongue or a biting attack. But he did not rely on oratory alone to win his battles. Always it was supported by an irrefutable statement of facts and an intelligent grasp of every aspect and implication of the subject at hand.

BOB KERR was one of the great men of this country. The Nation and the Senate will sorely miss him.

Remarks by Senator Hartke

Of Indiana

Mr. HARTKE. Mr. President, it was my good fortune to have been assigned to the Finance Committee when I came to this body. This meant working with many great men. None was greater, none was friendlier to a young country boy from Indiana than that big Oklahoma country boy, BOB KERR.

I have visited on Senator KERR's vast ranch on the land he loved so much. Together we shared the vista in Oklahoma, viewing the cattle and enjoying the fresh air. We often talked about Senator KERR's love of the land and the things he tried to do to protect the future of the country.

Others have spoken eloquently about Senator KERR's devotion to our beloved country, about the contribution he made to our space program, of his great work in taxation and finance. Although the day-to-day official contact we had was in the field of finance and taxation, I prefer to think of Senator KERR as the great conservationist—the one who worried, fretted, and acted to save our wood, water, and soil.

Senator KERR was at his best when he talked about these things and when he was doing something about them. I remember when he flew out to a meeting of the Wabash Valley Association at my behest to talk about these things. I remember when we would visit about them. His concern was deep and unselfish. His labors were long and successful.

If America's water resources are developed to the fullest, if our streams and woods are protected, if flooding can be controlled, BOB KERR's living memorial will have been established beyond anything we can say here or build from rock and steel.

Remarks by Senator Sparkman

Of Alabama

Mr. SPARKMAN. Mr. President, I wish to join my colleagues who have spoken words of tribute to our late departed colleague and friend, BOB KERR.

I first came to know BOB KERR before either he or I came to the Senate of the United States. In fact, I first knew him when he was Governor of Oklahoma. I shall never forget the great and rallying keynote address that he delivered at the Democratic National Convention.

I recognized him from the first as a man of great energy and tremendous ability.

When BOB KERR first came to the Senate he was assigned to a committee on which I was serving, the Public Works Committee, of which he later became chairman. I also served with him on the Senate Office Building Commission. I learned to admire greatly his ability in handling legislation and in getting quickly to the point. He had a masterful way of bringing persons of divergent views together and in getting out of committees beneficial legislation and in getting problems satisfactorily solved.

I have had the privilege of campaigning with BOB KERR in his beloved State of Oklahoma. His energy, his knowledge of facts and figures pertaining to his State, his grasp of the situation under all conditions to me were always impressive. On several different occasions BOB KERR has come to Alabama and spoken at various meetings, political and otherwise. He was a favorite of Alabama audiences.

BOB KERR had a perception that was beyond that of most people. I recall one instance when a group of us were being briefed on the vast operations of TVA. It was probably the first visit of BOB KERR to that area. He was impressed

with the man who did the briefing. Without knowing what his job was, he said to him:

Young man, I don't know what you are doing at the present time, but I would like very much to have you work with me.

It happened that the young red-headed man was "Red" Wagner, who was then serving as General Manager of the TVA and is today the Chairman of the TVA Board.

Bob Kerr was a fine Senator, a great and loyal churchman, a devoted family man, and a wonderful friend.

Mrs. Sparkman and I extend our sympathies to Mrs. Kerr and to her children and other members of Bob Kerr's family.

Remarks by Senator Engle

Of California

Mr. ENGLE. Mr. President, the untimely passing of our colleague BOB KERR removed from the Senate one of the most skilled legislators of our time.

BOB KERR was a self-made man. He was fearless and forceful. There was no limit to his capacity for taking on large responsibilities. These qualities which he had in abundance won for him the admiration and respect of even his sharpest critics. He had a powerful intellect and a great gift of expression—and it was always an unforgettable experience to see him in action on the floor of the Senate or at work in his committees. It was for his colleagues also a rewarding experience because we learned a great deal from him about the art of legislation. We will miss him very much.

It is to the enormous advantage of his State and country that BOB KERR turned his talents into the public service. As chairman of the Senate Space Committee and of the Rivers and Harbors Subcommittee, and as second in command in the Finance Committee, BOB KERR was in a position to make a significant contribution to the Nation, and he did.

From humble beginnings Senator KERR reached great heights in the business world as well as in the political world. I believe that this was largely because he never lost the common touch. He served the people well—with courage and devotion to the end. His death has left a great vacuum in the Democratic Party and in the U.S. Senate.

I join with my colleagues in expressing deepest sympathy to his family.

Remarks by Senator Young

Of Ohio

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, all of us were profoundly shocked when we learned of the sudden and tragic passing of Senator ROBERT S. KERR. This distressing news reached us as the new year was beginning, but the impact of this event will be felt for many years to come.

The untimely death of this great statesman was not only a loss to the State of Oklahoma, to the Senate, and to his friends, but it is my firm conviction that the people of the United States also lost the services of one of their finest public servants. Few men in public life possess his qualities of leadership. The story of his life exemplifies what our Nation has to offer to citizens if they have the will and determination to carry out their ambitions.

It was my privilege to work closely with Senator KERR in my capacity as a member of the Senate Aeronautical and Space Sciences Committee and the Senate Public Works Committee. We spoke frequently and often exchanged ideas relative to the space program. He was always considerate, and he could always be approached with confidence. I shall miss his friendship and guidance. He was always very good to me personally.

The Nation could ill afford to lose the services of this outstanding American. We, his friends, will always remember him. His memory, his deeds, and his contributions to our Government are a part of the history of our Nation.

He was a vastly popular, extremely influential man who served the people of his State with a dedication and devotion. No doubt it was this same energy which lifted him from humble beginnings in a log cabin in the Indian Territory, which later became the great State of Oklahoma, to a position of wealth and respect. Had Senator KERR been content with the security that comes from having achieved great suc-

cess in business and acquired almost limitless financial resources, he probably could have rested on that and still have been highly regarded. However, of course, he did not. He was a man of outstanding intellectual attainments. He devoted the remaining years of his life to public service, first as Governor of his State and then as a U.S. Senator.

I shall miss Senator KERR as a friend and as a colleague, and there are thousands of others who will miss him too. The Senate in particular will miss his refreshing candor, his determination, and his guiding hand.

Mr. President, I join with my colleagues in extending to Mrs. Kerr and her family my deepest sympathy.

Remarks by Senator Long

Of Missouri

Mr. LONG. Mr. President, the sudden and untimely passing of Senator ROBERT S. KERR has shocked and saddened us all. To his family, it has brought a sorrow that will ease with time—but never cease.

Among his friends and colleagues, it has left an emptiness that will be filled with memories—but never a replacement.

Throughout the length and breadth of the America he cherished in heart and served in life, there has been a loss that can never be regained, but there will forever remain the indelible mark of a devoted man that nothing short of the infinity of eternity can erase.

Many knew BOB KERR much closer—and for many more years than it was my honored privilege to know him. But this is not the gage that measures my personal feelings about him—feelings which I am certain are shared with all my fellow Missourians. He had close ancestral ties with Missouri through his father, William Samuel Kerr, who was born in Bakersfield, Ozark County, Mo. On many occasions he had mentioned this to me and told me of his feeling of close interest for my State.

He was also our neighbor, not only in geography, but in philosophy as well. He always demonstrated clearly the interest and concern of a good and faithful neighbor.

As a man he rose from the most humble of beginnings to vast material gains but never lost sight of the truth that nothing is accomplished without the assistance of our Creator.

As a public servant and official, he achieved the highest success and power, but always used it in keeping with the solemn obligation of trust that it imposes.

Because of the success and power he earned, many refer to him as a "king," yet it is clear from the example of BOB

KERR's life that for him there was truly only one king, God himself.

So while each of us misses the wonderful blessing of a daily association with such a trusted and loyal colleague as ROBERT S. KERR, great American and good man, we can be thankful for the worthy example that his life and his service sets for us all.

Many will recall that his favorite hymn was the wonderful and simple "Shall We Gather at the River," and know that he is now gathered at the greatest of rivers, the goal toward which his life and works were always directed.

Remarks by Senator Kefauver

Of Tennessee

Mr. KEFAUVER. Mr. President, in the passing of Senator KERR, the Senate lost one of its most forceful personalities and the Democratic Party one of its most vigorous adherents.

Senator KERR fought hard for the things he believed in; he was an able advocate and, as many in this body learned to their sorrow, a formidable adversary in debate. As a fellow Democrat, I was grateful for his effectiveness in this regard for he could rally support for common causes. One of the best speeches I ever heard was the keynote address he gave at the Democratic National Convention in 1944.

Many of my fellow Tennesseans knew him as one of the principal architects of the self-financing act for the Tennessee Valley Authority, under which TVA may issue bonds for the needed expansion of its power production facilities.

Senator KERR was one of the most important figures on the American political scene in modern times, and history will not soon forget him.

Remarks by Senator Cannon

Of Nevada

Mr. CANNON. Mr. President, I should like to join my colleagues in expressing my deep sense of loss at the passing of Senator KERR, and my conviction that the Senate, the Nation, and the State of Oklahoma have suffered a truly great loss. During my brief service here, I have learned that there are few men who could so completely win the hearts, friendship, and loyalty which BOB KERR won in his long and honorable Senate service. He was a strong man, yet a kind man, and he had the deepest sense of humility. He was a man who had strong convictions and the courage to fight for his beliefs, but all of his struggles were devoid of bitterness or rancor.

In his personal life Senator KERR was a devoted family man and one deeply moved by charity and the spirit of religion. He was a natural leader of men, a man of both character and moral strength, and big enough to consider the views of other men because of his dedication to justice, democracy, and the perpetuation of this great body.

I had the privilege of serving with him during the period that he was chairman of the Senate Space Committee. I know of his deep commitment that this Nation be pre-eminent in space and science. I know of his devotion to education and the development of the resources of this country for the use of its citizens. Some have said that he is a man who had everything, and with this I would agree; but he had the humanity to care about the aged and the sick, about the less privileged, and the economically distressed.

Many bills which have passed this body to become law, bear his indelible signature. He has given much to this Nation, and we as a people are thankful for his having been here to serve and to leave his mark on present and future generations.

Remarks by Senator Thurmond

Of South Carolina

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to the memory of a great American who has been recognized by many as one of the most distinguished and effective public servants ever produced by the great State of Oklahoma. Senator ROBERT KERR earned an enviable reputation as a man who turned his every endeavor into success, whether it be in the business world, in the Governor's chair, in the U.S. Senate, or as a lay leader in the Baptist Church. His meteoric rise from his humble beginning in a log cabin to a position of strong leadership and powerful influence in the councils of government and also his almost unmatched success as a businessman present a ringing testimony to the great and vast opportunities which our form of government and our free enterprise system offer to all Americans. BOB KERR proved that a man who is willing to work hard and face all the challenges of life can meet with eminent success in America. I must admit, however, that BOB KERR possessed many more valuable traits which contributed considerably to this success, including, of course, his warm and friendly personality, his integrity, his vast store of knowledge and intelligence, and his dedication to his State and Nation.

I had the pleasure of serving with the distinguished Senator from Oklahoma on the Public Works Committee, and I value my associations with him while serving on that committee and while working with him on many legislative matters in the Senate.

The State of Oklahoma and the people of this country have lost the services of a valuable and dedicated public servant, and I join my colleagues in extending my deepest sympathy to the people of Oklahoma and all the members of the Kerr family.

Remarks by Senator Symington

Of Missouri

Mr. SYMINGTON. Mr. President, as we all know, the Senate and the Nation have suffered a grave loss in the sudden passing of Senator ROBERT KERR; and I have lost a dear friend.

BOB KERR was one of the most brilliant men ever to serve in the U.S. Senate. His great mental capacity was only matched by his boundless physical drive, in behalf of those things he believed to be necessary and right.

To him the most complex problems seemed simple, and the most herculean tasks possible.

Senator KERR was one of the most successful and industrious businessmen ever to serve in the legislative branch of our Government. Nevertheless, he maintained a close and affectionate relationship with all the people of his State.

He was an expert in the field of conservation. His observations on that subject have been permanently recorded in a book of such quality that it is now widely used as a textbook in the colleges of Missouri.

BOB was an outstanding Biblical scholar, whose impressive knowledge substantiated his own great faith as well as that of others.

His rare oratory and his unforgettable humor will always be remembered by those who knew him.

With this abundance of talents, it is as though we have lost many men.

To his gracious wife and fine children Mrs. Symington and I extend our deepest sympathy.

Remarks by Senator Pell

Of Rhode Island

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, it is with profound humility that I add my voice to those of my colleagues in lament and praise for Senator ROBERT SAMUEL KERR. He will always be remembered as a pillar of strength and power in this body. But there were many other attributes to the man which will always make him memorable and his example one to respect. Colorful in speech and dress, forceful in oratory, the late Senator KERR was never one to allow himself or his interests to be submerged in the anonymity of government. And this, it seems to me, is the great lesson of his career to us all, as it was the source of his great influence in this body. The record of his life reads like a lexicon of the history of his State. Born in what was then Indian Territory, he grew up in that lusty area, won from her his education and his well-being, saw her come to statehood and became her Governor. And when he came to Congress, he was always first to say that Oklahoma's interests were his interests and that his interests were Oklahoma's. ROBERT KERR had his critics, but the lesson he left for us, it seems to me, was that he persisted in being his own colorful, independent self. The result was that we in the Senate always had a fresh burst of Oklahoma sunlight to illuminate our way, and we shall always be the richer for having had it.

Remarks by Senator Church

Of Idaho

Mr. CHURCH. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to BOB KERR, late a Senator from the State of Oklahoma, and a man who honored me with his friendship. The Members of this body who knew Senator KERR are aware that he was a man who stood apart in many ways. He was a giant among us, physically, mentally, and in the mark he left by his generalship here of legislation of far-reaching signficance. He was the kind of man of whom legends are made. Indeed, he was a living legend while yet among us—which can be said of few men, and never of little men. The legends will grow and flourish, for the basic stuff was there, and BOB KERR will enter into the folklore of our politics, as one of the rare ones of whom stories are told and memories cherished. The tribute we pay today is but the beginning for BOB KERR. We may be as confident that he will live in the history of the Senate as we can be confident that he has now found communion with the one Master whom BOB KERR recognized and served in all he did on earth.

Remarks by Senator Magnuson

Of Washington

Mr. MAGNUSON. Mr. President, I, along with the entire Nation, was shocked to hear the news that BOB KERR, of Oklahoma, had died suddenly.

I have enjoyed my close working relationship with Senator KERR, and it is much too difficult to crowd into this short tribute all the accomplishments which were his during the time he served in the U.S. Senate. While he had done so much, I truly felt that his star was just beginning to shine much brighter on the horizon had he been able to remain with us, to continue the work which he had so nobly advanced.

Senator KERR was born in a log cabin. He was a native son of the State of Oklahoma. He was a devout member of the Baptist Church. He had served as president of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma and as vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention. For several years before his death he had been president of the Baptist Foundation of Oklahoma. He struggled hard to get his formal education and came from a poor family. He was a great debater and became an expert on every subject he handled in the U.S. Senate.

BOB KERR served with honor and distinction on many committees in the Senate and his first love was the utilization of our natural resources.

I worked very closely with BOB KERR on the Senate Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences, which he so ably chaired. One could not help but be amazed at the confidence which he always demonstrated on many of the seemingly impossible tasks which he handled. Were it not for his bipartisan effort for the use of outer space for peaceful purposes, our Nation today, would, indeed, be lagging far behind in this field. He was determined to make our country first. The speed with which he got our space program underway was

most encouraging, and had it not been for his background in business and politics, I feel that this would never have been accomplished.

I had looked forward to working with Senator KERR during the 88th Congress. We needed him and were counting on him.

I join with my colleagues in expressing my deep sympathy to his wife and family.

Proceedings
in the
House of Representatives

Proceedings in the House

WEDNESDAY, *January 9, 1963.*

Mr. STEED. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution (H. Res. 12) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable ROBERT S. KERR, a Senator of the United States from the State of Oklahoma.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased Senator.

The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. ALBERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 51 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, January 10, 1963, at 12 o'clock noon.

Remarks by Representative Steed

Of Oklahoma

Mr. STEED. Mr. Speaker, I ask for recognition at this time in order to make a few remarks and to call the attention of the House again to the very sad and distressing loss of the distinguished and able senior Senator from Oklahoma, the Honorable ROBERT S. KERR, on January 1.

The untimely and shocking passing of this great statesman not only is a very heavy personal loss to me and to my colleagues from Oklahoma, as well as to our State, but it is my firm conviction that the Nation and the world also has lost the services of one of its finest public servants.

Senator KERR was born in the congressional district which I have the honor to represent. The famed log cabin from where he first saw the light of day still stands in my district.

I first knew Senator KERR in 1923 when, as a newspaper reporter, it was my duty to interview him at a time when his first business venture had been destroyed by fire. As the years went by I knew and watched him in his struggle to achieve his goals in life, and while in his time of great renown and fame here at the National Capitol he was known as a man of considerable wealth, we knew him first in Oklahoma as a man of very strained circumstances. He literally clawed his way up from the bottom in all fields in which he achieved success.

Senator KERR served as the chief executive of the great State of Oklahoma at a time when our country was at war. He made a very distinguished record in that capacity. He was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1948 in the same campaign in which I won my first election to the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the honor and pleasure to work with him all these years here in Washington. He had been

the senior Senator and head of our delegation for the last 12 years. Of course, there are no words that we can find which will describe the distress and the loss that we have suffered because of his untimely passing.

There is one thing I would like to say that may not be known by many people even though the whole world knows a lot about this great man; that is that all during the time he served in the U.S. Senate he always put more of his own means into the job, by far, than he received in financial remuneration from the Government.

His interest and his zeal to acquit himself, to serve his State and do his job in the very best way it could be done, made him happy that he had the means over and above what the Government made available to pour into his work, so that these successes that meant so much to the land of his origin could be achieved.

Mr. Speaker, Senator KERR was laid to rest in Oklahoma on January 4.

Senator KERR started from such humble beginnings and during his busy life achieved so many successes in so many fields in so many ways with so many people that it is almost impossible to write a true eulogy of the man.

I think he wrote his own epitaph in his own lifetime when he adopted as the motto and the guiding principle of his whole career of public service a slogan he chose to call "Land, Wood, and Water."

So long as there remains any interest in this land, and in the world for that matter, in the field of conservation and natural resources, I know the name of Senator KERR will always rank in the highest of its missionaries.

Mr. Speaker, my wife and I extend to the Kerr family, our warm and dear friends, our deep and heartfelt sympathy in their great loss.

Remarks by Representative Albert

Of Oklahoma

Mr. ALBERT. Mr. Speaker, on January 1 the new year was launched in a day of tragedy for the people of Oklahoma and the Nation. The most able son of Oklahoma soil took his departure. As a builder of Oklahoma, BOB KERR was a thousand men in one. Oklahoma has produced many men of competence, many men who have added to the sum total of happiness and opportunity of our people, but all of them pale in the shadow of this great man who was born in a log cabin in the blackjack country of Pontotoc County 13 years before Oklahoma became a State.

All in all, Senator KERR was the most remarkable man I have known in my lifetime. He had that rare quality of having absolute confidence that he could achieve as big as he could think—and he always admonished his fellows to think big.

He and his fine partner, Dean A. McGee who recently became a director of the Federal Reserve Bank in Kansas City, built a business and industrial empire; he had one of the finest ranches in America in Le Flore County in my own congressional district; he was perhaps the largest individual owner of coal properties in the United States; he was a major producer of uranium and helium; and near the end of his career he became one of the strongest legislative leaders in the United States in this generation.

Senator KERR was at one time a candidate for President of the United States. It was my honor to place his name in nomination. At that time the Nation was unaware of his potential as a national leader. While he was strong in Oklahoma, he had not attained the countrywide prestige necessary to make him a formidable candidate.

During the past few years I have often thought, as I watched him soar on the wings of his tremendous intellect,

that what he had hoped he would do directly might ultimately come to him without a major direct effort. He was a potential President of the United States.

He loved President John F. Kennedy, and I am sure the President himself would be the first to say that Senator KERR had those qualities of mind and character which would have equipped him to perform the duties of the highest office in the land.

Senator KERR was a great friend of the Vice President of the United States. When Lyndon Johnson was majority leader, working closely with Senator KERR, he learned what an anchor he was in hours of trouble and difficulty.

Senator KERR was my close friend. He has befriended me a thousand times and in a thousand ways. I have had many private conversations with him, the contents of which after his death are known only to me. These moments of consultation and conversation are among the richest experiences of my life.

Some people thought that BOB KERR pushed too hard. He was like a great engine powered by superfuel as he drove to every task. Sometimes he made his own job hard for himself. He never worried about finesse. He could accomplish almost any task he undertook by main strength—by the sheer weight of his intellect, by his rocklike determination, and his vast energy.

He often consulted with me about his political problems. I was always flattered that he generally took my advice.

His great love was the Arkansas and Red River Basins. He set in motion and carried far enough toward conclusion the development of these watersheds that without doubt they will someday be famous in the industrial and commercial life of this Nation.

"Land, Wood, and Water," the slogan under which he campaigned and lived, was not to him just a political gimmick. It was the summary of a determination that he did more about than anybody in the country.

He was preeminent in many, many fields. He probably did more for his church than any layman in Oklahoma.

He was responsible for more worthy young men and women getting through school or into business than anybody in the history of our State, so far as I know.

A product of the frontier of Indian Territory, he was an inspiration to little people everywhere, thousands of whom he helped during his lifetime.

He probably built up the greatest business organization and the biggest personal political organization in the history of our State and was one of its most illustrious Governors.

He was the center of everything that he undertook. Those who worked with and for him were not only coworkers and employees, they were disciples. To be an active part of the Kerr organization was a way of life to hundreds of people. He commanded the most devoted loyalty from those closely associated with him.

Senator KERR's death has brought home to me the frailty of life. So many times he and I had talked of discussing certain things and going more into detail on some of our plans, but we just never did get around to all of them. Often, also, he had said to me that he hoped to ride the first boat to go up the Arkansas when it became a navigable stream. He failed in this, but he died at the zenith of his greatest success in this area. He will be there in spirit when the first boat is launched.

To paraphrase Edwin Markham in his great poem on Abraham Lincoln, and to quote almost directly from Senator KERR's funeral oration delivered by his pastor, Dr. Herschel H. Hobbs—when he went down he did not leave just another stump in the forest. He fell like a kingly cedar tree and left a lonesome place against the sky.

To Mrs. Kerr and their fine children and grandchildren, to his brothers and sister, to his friends who are legion, I extend my deepest sympathy. Oklahoma has lost her greatest and most effective advocate. America has lost one of her noblest sons.

Remarks by Representative Edmondson

Of Oklahoma

Mr. EDMONDSON. Mr. Speaker, it is a sad occasion that brings all of us in the Oklahoma delegation to the floor together this afternoon to pay tribute to a man who was great not only in the field of statecraft but great also in the field of industry and finance and in the field of church leadership.

Senator ROBERT S. KERR was appropriately saluted at the services in Oklahoma City last week as the great lay leader of the Baptist Church, which he loved so much.

For Oklahoma he has indeed left many monuments. Of all those great monuments none exceeds in importance in the future of our State the great waterway about which he dreamed for so many years and to which he had given so much of his time and his energy during his public career. The greatest dream of Senator KERR undoubtedly was navigation on the Arkansas River and the great industrial potential which would follow that development.

I think that for him a real milestone was realized last fall when in separate meetings at Muskogee and at Catoosa in Oklahoma further historic steps were taken to advance the cause of navigation on the river.

Senator KERR was there to break the ground for the first port to be located in Oklahoma on the Arkansas River at Muskogee. He was at Catoosa to help celebrate the progress that had been made on the river leading to the establishment of the great terminal port of that system in Oklahoma on the Verdigris River.

I think that when the final measuring stick is applied to the lives of the men who played a part in the history of our State, there will be no challenge to Senator KERR in the role that he has played as a leader of our State, in developing its great resources and in helping to make possible a brighter industrial future for the people of our State.

Because this navigation system was so close to the Senator's heart, I introduced yesterday as the first of the measures which I will sponsor in this Congress, a House joint resolution which would authorize the naming of the navigation route on the Arkansas River as the Robert S. Kerr Seaway. I earnestly hope that measure will have united support in both the House and the Senate from all who are interested in the development of that great river because no man did more to earn this honor than did Senator KERR.

Senator KERR was always kind, always considerate, always helpful to his colleagues. His strong arm was available to help the poor and the unfortunate just as it was available to help friends and colleagues. I feel I have lost a dear friend, a constant and helpful colleague. My wife joins me in sending to his lovely wife and to his brothers and his sons and daughter our deepest sympathy in their great loss.

Remarks by Representative Wickersham

Of Oklahoma

Mr. WICKERSHAM. Mr. Speaker, New Year's Day was a bleak one for Oklahoma. We were shocked to learn of the unexpected death of Oklahoma's greatest Senator, ROBERT S. KERR, affectionately known to his friends as BOB.

His death shocked all of Oklahoma, as well as the Nation. We were indeed hopeful and praying that the Senator would recover from his illness of the previous weeks and continue his powerful role in the U.S. Senate and the 88th Congress, in many fields of successful private enterprise, as well as his work as a Baptist leader and guiding light.

Reports of the past few days had indicated he would soon be back in the Senate ranks. His death confused and stunned his followers in Oklahoma, the Nation, and admirers in Congress.

BOB KERR rose from humble beginning to become the most powerful man in the U.S. Senate because he was a human locomotive, a driving man. Time after time he demonstrated his capacity to handle great responsibilities. He roared into debate with his Senate colleagues like an Oklahoma tornado, with effective results.

BOB KERR lost only one major political battle, his drive for the presidential nomination. After he gave up hopes of ever being in the White House he continued his upward move into power.

In committee he was powerful because he carefully studied each move and arrived prepared for action, armed with information about the problem at hand. Public works, space, finance—all controlled by the hand of BOB KERR.

For Oklahoma, his death came at a time when the State is really beginning to move forward. BOB KERR was the captain of the Oklahoma congressional team. He called the

signals and helped to bring home one-tenth of the total public works appropriations in the last Congress.

His work greatly benefited Oklahoma, yet Tennessee, Arkansas, Kansas, and other States can attest to his work with glowing pride. Senator KERR took the lead in the development of land, wood, water, and space. His greatest dream was the completion of the Arkansas River development project, a program that is now far enough along so that completion is assured.

Yes, BOB KERR was a great man, an ideal family man, a most outstanding church layman, and a true Christian gentleman. We shall miss him.

I wish to take this opportunity to once again express my deepest sympathy to his entire family.

Remarks by Representative Jarman

Of Oklahoma

Mr. JARMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to me to join my colleagues in paying tribute to the memory of one of Oklahoma's most distinguished sons, the late Senator ROBERT S. KERR. The Senator's untimely death is a tremendous loss to our Nation and our State. Our Oklahoma congressional delegation has lost a great leader.

Senator KERR was an unusually able man with boundless energy. He was a great American and a champion supporter and developer of his native Oklahoma. He took pride in his heritage and few men have worked so unceasingly to serve their State and her citizens. His keen intellect and sound judgment were demonstrated in all his decisions—a mark of a great statesman. The people of Oklahoma and the Nation are most fortunate in having had a man of such high character and outstanding ability to represent their interests in the Congress of the United States.

Senator KERR's colleagues already miss him and will continue to miss him for a long time to come. The people of the State of Oklahoma will never forget him.

Remarks by Representative Belcher

Of Oklahoma

Mr. BELCHER. Mr. Speaker, our hearts are heavy today at the untimely loss of a friend and a colleague, ROBERT S. "BOB" KERR who was BOB to all of his friends. He was a Democrat; I am Republican. My respect for him as an individual and as a U.S. Senator transcends those party lines.

Although at times we differed on national issues, these differences never affected our friendship or our working together for the interest of our constituents and the State of Oklahoma.

The life of BOB KERR is the great American success story. Starting from absolute scratch as the son of a man who worked hard to support six children, by his own drive, ability, and intelligence he rose to be one of the most successful businessmen in America, one of the outstanding Senators of the U.S. Senate, and one of the greatest supporters of his beloved church, the Southern Baptist Church.

It was my privilege to work with BOB KERR rather closely for the past 12 years. In all of these years never once did he fail to fulfill his promises to the fullest extent. He was my friend, and I was his friend; we admired and respected each other. BOB KERR loved Oklahoma and was one of its greatest boosters. He fought with a passion to see that Oklahoma secured those things that were rightfully hers.

A test of a man's character can usually be judged by the attitude of those people who work with him day by day. I have known many of his employees for a couple of decades; I have never heard of one that did not admire, respect, and love him, and usually remain in his service. He had the ability to select good, capable people; and he loved and respected them as part of his family.

I have heard BOB say on many occasions, "Do not be afraid to dream big dreams, but be careful of what you pray for, as

your prayers might be answered." Bob dreamed big dreams; most of them through blood, sweat, and tears came true.

Oklahoma and the Nation are going to miss him. I am going to miss him.

Bob Kerr is gone. He died in the harness, in the service of his beloved State and his country. He has left a mark which will never fade but will continue to be a monument to his hard work and strenuous effort.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Belcher joins me in extending to Mrs. Kerr and the Kerr family our heartfelt sympathy. We share with them their great loss.

Remarks by Representative McCormack

Of Massachusetts

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply grieved by the passing of my dear, close, and valued friend, the late Senator BOB KERR. Between BOB KERR and me there existed for years a close relationship that I treasured very much and which I shall always treasure in connection with his memory.

Senator BOB KERR was one of the great Americans of all time and one of the outstanding legislators in the Halls of Congress. He was a man of commanding views; a man of definite mind; a kind man always, as the majority leader well stated, doing good things for others. Senator BOB KERR was not only a great man but a good man. He was a leader in business, a leader in government in his State, a leader in Government on the national level. BOB KERR possessed the qualities of leadership. He was, as others of our colleagues have said, a man of deep faith. He was a man who lived up to the spiritual truths that he believed in. He had an intense love of country and an intense love of his fellow man. His life was like a Horatio Alger story. The story of his life shows what can be done in America, the land of opportunity, if one has the will, the ambition, and the determination to carry out their ambitions. BOB KERR always used his wealth as a trust. He always served his State and his country as a trust.

The country could ill afford to lose the services of BOB KERR at this time, but God has acted. We, his friends, will always remember that great man. The memory of his life, his deeds, his actions, his contributions on the State and Federal level are a permanent part of the record of the Nation and the State.

I extend to Mrs. Kerr, her sons and daughter, and to the other loved ones left behind my deep sympathy in their great loss and sorrow.

Remarks by Representative Miller

Of California

Mr. MILLER. Mr. Speaker, I want to join with the delegation from Oklahoma and other friends of Senator KERR in paying my humble tribute to him for his great accomplishments in the Congress of the United States.

It was my privilege to work rather closely with Senator KERR in my capacity as chairman of the House Committee on Science and Astronautics since he was chairman of the Senate Aeronautics and Space Sciences Committee. We were frequently together in conferences and exchanged ideas relative to the space program. He was always kindly, he was always considerate, and you could approach him with confidence, because you knew that you were going to be well received. I never remember a time when he became dictatorial or refused to listen to reasonable arguments.

The great space effort of this country which he helped to initiate will miss the drive and the force that he brought to it. I, for one, appreciate what this loss means to our space effort.

Mr. Speaker, I join with others in extending to his wife and family my deepest sympathy.

Remarks by Representative Libonati

Of Illinois

Mr. LIBONATI. Mr. Speaker, Senator ROBERT S. KERR lived in surroundings in the true tradition of the pioneer. He was born of humble parentage in a log cabin, in what was then Indian Territory, at Ada, Okla. Throughout his life he never forgot the religious teachings of his youth and the inherent compassion for those striving against great odds to gain success in life—whether in the business, educational or vocational fields. He later made it financially possible for hundreds of the citizens of his native State to realize their life's ambition.

He learned at an early age that, in order to become successful in life, one must receive an education. Even though his problems were many—he completed his liberal education, at Shawnee Baptist University, and was graduated in law at Oklahoma University.

As a man of decision—which marked his entire life—he started prospecting for oil as a drilling engineer. His success in this field was attested to by the expansive Kerr-McGee Industries, Inc., one of the largest oil companies in the Nation. With the increase of his wealth, this great humanitarian expanded the finances supporting his many charitable, civic, and educational programs.

Senator KERR was a very religious man and, as a true Christian, endeavored by example to influence the lives of his many followers. He was considered to be one of the leading national churchmen of the Baptist Church.

As a leader in the civic and business affairs of the State of Oklahoma, and his humanitarian interest in the life attainments of its citizens, it was inevitable that he would enter the political lists to press his progressive ideas and mold public opinion in order to insure legislative enactment.

Through these efforts he was selected as Democratic national committeeman. And, later, he became the Governor of his State, January 1943 to January 1947. In 1948, he was elected to the U.S. Senate, reelected in 1954 and 1960.

As a Senator, KERR became a powerful force in the enactment of legislation. He was respected by his colleagues for his keen and resourceful mind. His honesty of purpose was never questioned. His word was never broken. He was blessed with a great foresight for predicting the future problems of the Nation. His analytical mind, together with a fondness for meticulous research on a question, gave him the factual knowledge required to determine the core of the problem. His indefatigable persistence to arrive at a solution gained for him a reputation for being able to settle highly controversial matters affecting legislation of national importance to future generations.

He was active in American Legion affairs, serving as State commander in 1925. He received many honors for his service, including the Legion's Distinguished Service Award. He served as a second lieutenant in the 1st Field Artillery in World War I.

He was the perfect American of his time—a product of a true democracy—of humble birth, schooled under adverse conditions, and trained in the business world by experience, seasoned in his high sense of Americanism in the service of his country, and lived to serve in the highest tribunal of the land—a man loved by his neighbors and colleagues and feared by his enemies, and respected and honored by the people of his State and Nation.

We, the members of the Illinois delegation, regret his passing and extend to his dear wife and sons our heartfelt condolences. May the good Lord bless him for the many kindnesses he extended to his fellow man during his lifetime. May his family glory in his fine record.

For he that followeth the path of kindness and giveth to others happiness follows the sacred footsteps of Him that bringeth good tidings that publisheth peace.

Remarks by Representative Mills

Of Arkansas

Mr. MILLS. Mr. Speaker, the profound shock which came to all of us on learning of the sudden and tragic passing of ROBERT S. KERR cannot be expressed in words. This sad and distressing news reached us as the new year was dawning, but the impact of the tragic event will be felt for years to come.

From the wellsprings of the earth of the Oklahoma frontier a towering oak arose. This giant of the forest was BOB KERR. He arose from humble beginnings to great heights. From the log cabin of the western frontier to the highest councils of State and Nation ROBERT S. KERR blazed a trail of leadership which few have ever matched. In conflict and in peace, on the battlefields of World War II and during the cold war of these last decades, he rendered devoted service to his Nation.

BOB KERR'S passing is a profound personal loss to me. He was my close friend. I came to know him quite intimately, particularly so in recent years. I have worked with him on literally hundreds of legislative projects, both large and small. The most recent of these was the Revenue Act of 1962. The extent of his contributions to the public interest cannot be described here today. Who can, in the metes and bounds of a few words, show how this great man labored over the minute details of legislation and refused to face even the possibility of defeat? I can with sincerity and vigor offer my testimony wholeheartedly to all those qualities and characteristics which have been associated with him by those who have spoken before me. Above all, I can testify to his character, his complete dedication, and singleness of purpose in accomplishing great objectives, and the enormous capacity for successful leadership which was his.

The tremendous power of his intellect and innate brilliance of mind, combined with his driving energy, his diligence and great strength of character, propelled him to the

forefront of every endeavor which he ever undertook. His legislative talents and his enormous capacity for reaching solutions in the public interest—matters to which he had devoted himself especially since coming upon the national legislative scene in 1948—are known to all his colleagues and especially those of us who were privileged to work with him on particular projects of great significance and importance to the Nation.

The loss to the Nation in the passing of Bob Kerr can only inadequately be described by those of us who speak today. Historians will, I am confident, accord him a very large place and high stature in the account of these years in the life of our great Nation.

To his family I offer sincere and heartfelt condolences. They can take solace from the abiding knowledge that his life and works contributed great and good gifts to the lasting service of mankind.

Remarks by Representative Walter

Of Pennsylvania

Mr. WALTER. Mr. Speaker, the sudden death of the distinguished Senator from Oklahoma, the Honorable ROBERT S. KERR, has left a deep mark on all of us.

This past session of the 87th Congress, all of us marveled at the stamina and skill of this great Senator as he directed the fate of the most important pieces of legislation to come to the floor of the other body.

There is no question that BOB KERR was a self-made man, a go-getter. At times his foes sharply criticized his actions, but BOB KERR feared no man. He was, as one newsman wrote, "beyond doubt, the most powerful single Senator—and by himself more powerful than most of them in groups."

It did not take one long to know where BOB KERR stood on a certain piece of legislation. All he needed was an explanation of the legislation and he would form his own opinion on its merits, and immediately would become its champion if he though the bill was worth while.

This was brought home repeatedly in my own personal dealings with BOB KERR. In the 1st session of the 87th Congress, Senator BOB KERR, as chairman of the Public Works Committee, became one of the strongest advocates for the Delaware River Basin compact and helped lead the fight for its enactment by that body when it was threatened by a battle over public versus private power.

Outside of the Halls of Congress, BOB KERR was a personable, knowledgeable individual who commanded the respect of a multitude of friends.

His every action was made in behalf of his constituents in that great State of Oklahoma, where he was born in a log cabin. His unique talents brought him widespread acclaim, and his climb politically was compared with that of President Lincoln.

All of us, and the people of Oklahoma, will greatly miss this distinguished Senator. I join my colleagues in extending heartfelt condolences to Senator KERR's devoted wife, Grayce Breene, and his daughter and three sons. Their grief is shared by all of us who had the good fortune and privilege to serve with this outstanding American.

Memorial Tributes
to
Robert Samuel Kerr

Memorial Tributes

Mr. MONRONEY. Mr. President, I include, as a part of my tribute, the prayer given by Dr. Frederick Brown Harris, Chaplain of the Senate, at the funeral services, and various editorial comments from newspaper publications in the State of Oklahoma.

PRAYER OFFERED AT THE FUNERAL OF SENATOR KERR, BY DR. FREDERICK BROWN HARRIS, CHAPLAIN OF THE SENATE, JANUARY 4, 1963

Our Father God, as we come to this solemn hour a sentence from Thy Book is ringing in our ears: "Know ye that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel." Fallen? Yes, that is the poor, blundering verdict of tear-dimmed eyes and of broken spirits, shadowed today by the somber sadness of farewell.

We bow in this sanctuary he loved, vividly conscious of the empty place at which our surprised eyes are staring, staring stunned, bewildered, and strangely moved. For there is a vacant place against the sky of our national life, a vacant place against the sky of our friendship, of this church, of this city, of this State, and of the worldwide enterprises of the kingdom of God.

One loved by his friends, trusted by his colleagues, honored by his church, has gone down—as when a giant cedar, green with boughs, goes down with a great shout upon the hills and leaves a lonesome place against the sky. Thou knowest that is the first thing we see. For a while it seems the only thing we see. Our eyes are glued upon that vacant place against the sky. With a poignant sense of tragic loss we are gazing today with altered eyes upon an altered world and our lonely and wondering hearts are crying out in those ancient words of startled surprise, "My Father, my Father, the chariot of Israel and the horsemen thereof."

Upon our waiting hearts as we gather in this hallowed shrine, where his hungry heart listened to the proclamation of the word of God, where he entered into the fellowship of the sweet communion, the solemn vows, and the church's hymns of love and praise, may there fall upon us the mantle of a double portion of the enabling spirit of the Master he loved and served.

We come this day, with a background of Christian living and serving, which for dedicated time and strength, and substance, strikes dumb any poor faltering word of estimate or appreciation we might try to bring.

Like Thy servant Moses he wished not that his countenance shone—but it did. Not with any external halo of boastful profession, but with the glow of an inner radiance. Diligent in business, yet he instinctively turned from a subtle secularism which so often, alas, in these days of crass materialism dims life's altar light. His holiness was not a claim but a climate which, while frank and open and truthful, had no place for meanness or duplicity. His was never a cloistered piety, for while only a ministering doctor saw him die, we saw him live in the glory of public service.

Here in this State of which from pioneer days he was a rugged builder, he dreamed his dreams and saw his visions of the city of God hovering over this expanding land.

We are conscious today that in his record is an epic of achievement which stands as a prophetic beacon of hope for the youth of America. Here it was by force of character and ability he climbed the steep ladder of business success and won the recognition of strong men. He belonged to this age of amazing expansion, with its perennial tearing down and building up of titanic energy and of gigantic plans. This was his field of service. His prayer was not for an easy place.

That prayer of Thy servant, Carl Sandburg, expresses the very spirit of his sacrificial service: "Lay me on an anvil, O God, let me lift and loosen old foundations, let me be the great nail holding a skyscraper through blue nights into white stars."

We are grateful today that with a sense of his stewardship through his church he touched the world with his prayers and his gifts. Thus, he was a statesman of the kingdom of God, a custodian of God's purposes, a trustee of the great commission.

He was intense when mind and strength and time were to be focused upon the thing to be done but he kept the heart and bubbling enthusiasm of a child.

Thus we gratefully bring the record of one who was not a conformist, who spoke for himself and for those who sent him as their spokesman, who consecrated his ability and his love of country and his massive strength across toiling years to help build an America which under God is the torch of the world.

And so no parting here, even though unheralded and poignant, can hush the song our confident spirits raise,

"Jesus, I live to Thee
The loveliest and best
My life in Thee—Thy life in me
In Thy blest love I rest.

"Jesus I die to Thee
Whenever death shall come
To die in Thee is life to me
In my eternal home."

Lord, bring us all to that homeland of Thy eternal love. In the name of the loving Redeemer, we pray. Amen.

ROBERT SAMUEL KERR

[From the Daily Oklahoman, Oklahoma City, Okla., Jan. 2, 1963]

Robert S. Kerr

A giant has fallen. Oklahoma's ablest and most honored native son was struck down yesterday. He was in the prime of his power and at the pinnacle of his career, a statesman and a patriot. He was the champion defender and developer of his native Oklahoma. No other man had fought so hard and achieved so much in raising Oklahoma to a high place in the eyes of the world.

His ability, energy, and keenness of intellect challenged the admiration of his friends and the fear of his opponents. In his death, Oklahoma suffered a crippling wound. The Nation itself and the whole world in which our country moves will suffer changes unknown.

Seldom has one man so dominated the course and future of his beloved State. In the death of Senator Kerr, the State of Oklahoma has been shaken to its foundations. A host of friends and uncounted numbers of his opponents will deplore his untimely death.

Always he was a friend to the poor, a generous giver who shared his wealth unstintingly in a myriad of benefactions.

Now is no time to count or evaluate the extent of the disaster which has fallen upon the country and his cherished Oklahoma.

Where is the leader who can take his place?

[From the Oklahoma City Times, Jan. 2, 1963]

Oklahoma's Great Son

What Oklahoman will ever forget the chill that struck the heart Tuesday as he heard the shattering news that Senator Robert Kerr had died?

Even though the tidings, 2 weeks before, that the 66-year-old senior Senator had suffered a heart attack had spread premonitions throughout the State, Oklahomans had been reassured by the drive and hardiness of Kerr into believing he would recover.

But it was not to be.

And a relaxed Oklahoma, its thoughts on the Orange Bowl game at Miami, saw the future of the State suddenly shiver in uncertainty.

At a time like this one remembers the qualities of the deceased—Senator Kerr's single mindedness for Oklahoma, his vision, his fine mind, his wit. But because of his superb ability to get things done, these qualities were so intermingled with accomplishment after accomplishment that even in the hour of his death one cannot

separate the personal qualities from the achievements and the plans for the future. Nor does one need to.

So even as we remember the past we can reflect in sadness upon an untimely death that came with so much the Senator had planned as yet unaccomplished. The Senator who loved Oklahoma so much and did so much for his State would understand.

The loss is not ours alone. The ramifications of this death go far beyond our borders—into Congress, the Kennedy administration's plans, our space effort, public works, conservation, oil legislation, finance. The title of a Saturday Evening Post article on Senator KERR which came out by coincidence just this week, "The Uncrowned King of the Senate," describes the impact this loss will have in national affairs.

Oklahoma mourns with the grieving family of this man, one of her great sons of all time.

But even in this hour of sorrow we must realize what Senator KERR, tireless worker for the Oklahoma of tomorrow, would want above all. That would be for Oklahoma, without despair, to press on to make come true that glorious future toward which he did so much to blaze a splendid pathway.

[From the Tulsa (Okla.) Tribune, Jan. 2, 1963]

BOB KERR

You could write a lot of trite editorial sentences about the death of Senator ROBERT S. KERR.

You could say that his loss will be keenly felt in the Senate. You can say that it is a great blow to Oklahoma. These things are true.

You could also point out that he grew as his jobs grew. But maybe that's in reverse. That's what you might say about any one of a number of American Presidents who were plunged into a place of great power with only modest equipment, and who suddenly began to measure up to their responsibilities. BOB KERR could have been just a garden variety Senator. But he became the most powerful man in that body because he first demonstrated his capacity to handle great responsibilities.

He was a driving man. But he drove no one as hard as himself. He peddled magazines to put himself through college. He studied law while he taught school. He set out to become a millionaire and became a multimillionaire. He never completely satisfied his thirst for wealth, and, with his partner, Dean McGee, never ceased making purchases and expansions. But along about 1940 he de-

cided he was financially fixed for life, so he roared into politics like a tornado.

As a politician BOB KERR lost only one major battle, his drive for the presidential nomination. Yet you can't say that he started out as a statesman. There was a lot left to be desired in his 4 years as Governor of Oklahoma. But he was learning. As he grew more sure footed he began to spend less time playing politics as though it were a poker game and more time trying to figure out what was sound.

He didn't hit his stride until after he gave up his White House hopes. Then he relaxed. He began to appear occasionally on the unpopular side of issues. His colleagues, who had regarded him as a church-basement orator, long on platitudes and Biblical quotations, began to listen to him. They discovered that there was a lot more to BOB KERR than homilies and billingsgate. He was formidable in debate because he did his homework. He was powerful in committee because he arrived stuffed with information.

BOB KERR'S love affair with Oklahoma caused wry smiles and some resentment. But someone had to love Oklahoma. BOB KERR chafed at the stagnation brought about by unwise farming, lack of soil conservation, and high transportation costs. His conviction that this could be reversed by the proper employment of land, wood, and water became his credo and he backed it by heavy investments in pasture and coal land in eastern Oklahoma, an area that had been on the skids for 40 years.

BOB KERR, fortunately, lived long enough so that much of his work cannot be undone. The Arkansas River development program is now far enough along so that completion is assured. Oklahoma's potential will be realized many years earlier than it would have been without BOB KERR.

But we will miss him, just the same. He was a locomotive. He was ruthless, and he was human. He was acquisitive, and he was generous. He was partisan, and he was also patriotic. He was a complex and amazing man.

[From Vinita (Okla.) Daily Journal, Jan. 3, 1963]

JOURNALLY SPEAKING

(By O. B. Campbell)

Many facets of American life will feel the loss of Senator ROBERT S. KERR, for he figured in so many phases of activity in Oklahoma and the Nation.

All these activities added together emphasize the demands made upon his time and his services.

Anyone who has not followed closely the work of a U.S. Senator or Congressman cannot realize the hours and hours of work spent in trying to properly carry out the duties of the office. Their hours are long, often far into the night to become informed on legislation that is being considered by the legislative bodies. Constant trips to and from their States, public appearances, stacks of mail, campaigns, committee meetings, and hundreds of other demands and more and more burdens to their already loaded shoulders.

It is no wonder that these services eventually become more than the body can bear. But, being the type of public servants that they are, they continue to carry on while the demands never let up.

Senator KERR, a great Oklahoma leader, joins the ranks of those who have fallen in the service of their country.

[From the Seminole (Okla.) Producer, Jan. 2, 1963]

BOB KERR'S DEATH A BLOW TO OKLAHOMA

(By Milt Phillips)

Senator KERR'S death is a serious blow to Oklahoma. His philosophy of government may not have coincided with the philosophy of every reader of this column. Whether it did or did not, none can sincerely say the Senator's influence was not one of the most important factors in bringing numerous industrial developments to Oklahoma. The faith expressed in Oklahoma by Senator KERR and his business associates—the influence he exerted because of his seniority and exceptional ability in the Congress—his constant alertness for governmental and industrial payrolls for his State—all of these added up to one of the State's greatest potentials for economic growth.

* * * * *

Oklahoma not only lost one of the most brilliant men ever to serve in Congress from Oklahoma, it lost the most influential man ever to sit in Congress from this State.

[From the McAlester (Okla.) News Capital, Jan. 2, 1963]

THE LOSS OF SENATOR KERR

The death of Oklahoma's Senator ROBERT S. KERR is a loss to his State and his Nation. His importance is shown by the fact that the future of President Kennedy's legislative program has been put in doubt and there well may have been a cloud drawn over Oklahoma water projects by his death.

Loss of "the most powerful man in Congress" also shifts responsibility for many important Oklahoma programs to his colleague, Senator Mike Monroney.

Senator KERR was a fighter and a cooperator in Congress and at the same time had a tremendous sense of humor when the occasion justified it. It is being said he is the Congressman President Kennedy will miss most during the coming session.

As Senator Humphrey said of Oklahoma's senior Senator, it is hard to describe the characteristics of a man who was as accomplished as Senator KERR.

Oklahoma will miss his leadership in the front ranks of its continuous fight for progress.

[From the Purcell (Okla.) Register, Jan. 3, 1963]

STATE MOURNS DEATH OF KERR

BOB KERR is dead. Oklahoma people have lost their most faithful, most effective, and most beloved public servant.

Senator KERR was a native son, a typical Oklahoman. Born of a rugged pioneer family, he grew up under primitive conditions, conditions that called for hard work and total perseverance. Commencing with an innate ambition, he planned his career in business, profession, and politics just like an architect would design a building or like an artist would paint a picture or a sculptor would carve an image of a great face. He worked consistently and methodically on every operation, every lawsuit, and every project. and that coordinated system of labor brought him success in every field of endeavor.

It is well the editor of this newspaper remembers a description of BOB KERR given him by the late judge of the district court in Purcell, W. G. Long. Judge Long described BOB KERR as a lawyer having the best analytical mind of any attorney who had ever appeared in his court, and some of the greatest lawyers in Oklahoma appeared in Judge Long's court.

Senator KERR is stricken down just as he reached the heights of popularity, strength, and outstanding accomplishments in the field of national service. Oklahoma has lost its most faithful friend.

Senator ROBERT S. KERR will go down in the history of this State as Oklahoma's most famous citizen.

[From the Edmond (Okla.) Booster, Jan. 3, 1963]

SPEAKING FRANKLY

The death of Senator ROBERT S. KERR this week is being mourned by thousands of Oklahomans and countless other thousands throughout the United States.

Eulogies of this man are being spread over every newspaper in the country, but they all cannot help but fall short in accurately depicting the influence wielded on the lives of so many others by his outstanding personality. And the effect of so many of his decisions will be felt for many, many years to come.

Few individuals in the history of our country have had the opportunity to serve their country and their fellow man in such positions of responsibility as did Senator KERR. He sought and accepted these opportunities with a fervor few men could muster.

Wisdom, courage, and humility are three traits of character seldom found in one individual, but KERR had more than his share of each.

* * * * *

Statesmen of Senator KERR's stature are hard to come by, and there are none that could begin to compare with him on the Oklahoma horizon. The realization of this fact is one of the reasons Democrats and Republicans alike are saddened by his loss.

No man—including the great Will Rogers—has ever contributed so much to the State of Oklahoma as has ROBERT S. KERR.

[From the Shawnee (Okla.) News-Star, Jan. 3, 1963]

SOME HUMAN WARMTH HAS GONE, TOO

By now little has been left unsaid or unprinted concerning Oklahoma's Senator ROBERT S. KERR. His untimely death Tuesday morning occasioned an immediate flood of praise and flattering appraisals of his life which had reached towering achievements in many fields. Most of the printed tributes came from men of high stature themselves, who were in position to know the great qualities that had brought him success.

"A giant has fallen," "the uncrowned king of the Senate," "a bit of Oklahoma died New Year's Day along with Senator BOB," "a great industrialist and oil executive," "Oklahoma's greatest asset," "OBU's most generous benefactor," were a few of the ways by which such men appraised Oklahoma's senior Senator, perhaps the title he cherished most. In this role he was able to bring to bear the kind of influence that was fruitful to his native State to which few men have been more fiercely devoted.

The writer is not presuming to be numbered among the great personages who have so unstintingly praised Senator KERR, or will. Rather we choose to evaluate him as a man who one just instinctively likes because of the human warmth that he couldn't have concealed had he chosen. Those little lines that were etched around his eyes because of the happy smiles or more hearty laughs with which he cloaked his visage must have been no small reason for the great affection which he evoked among his fellow beings. Certainly they worked such magic on us, upon occasions when we were around him, mostly on the basis of press meetings. Even though we were not always in accord with the issues to which Senator BOB brought his vast resources of support, we were never naive enough to believe that only we knew all of the answers—and we felt that the Senator was really at heart a conservative and very, very good for the Oklahoma which we also wished to see progress.

We will always cherish a letter from Senator KERR which he took the time to write in longhand in appreciation of something we had said about him that he liked. "God bless you, Beachy," was his closing sentence, and we felt the warmth of a great man then, as now.

And we feel that God has blessed us more because of Senator KERR'S request.

[From the Lawton (Okla.) Morning Press, Jan. 3, 1963]

STATE MOURNS LOSS OF LEADER

The people of Oklahoma today mourn the loss of their greatest statesman and leader, ROBERT S. KERR.

His untimely death on New Year's Day leaves a void which cannot be filled. Senator KERR was without peer in many walks of life. He was without doubt Oklahoma's greatest native son, who rose from lowly beginnings to become one of the outstanding leaders of his time in both State and Nation.

A man of strong character, untiring energy, and keen intellect, he had the drive and the ability to forge to the top in statecraft and business in a constructive way. He was instrumental, almost singlehandedly at times, in lifting his beloved State of Oklahoma to greater heights, morally, spiritually, and industrially. He was a man of vision who could see the potential of his fellow man and his State, and work constructively to achieve results. Not the least of BOB KERR'S attributes was his devotion to his God and his church. He was a deeply religious man and practiced his religion.

Senator KERR gave all he had to his State. He has often said,

"When I can no longer be of service to the people of Oklahoma I do not care to serve in the Senate." On recent visits to the State, friends have felt that the Senator was pushing himself too hard. But he never let up. He continued working for Oklahoma to the very end.

Bob Kerr was loved by many, hated by few. There is no one in Oklahoma who can take his place. His sudden and tragic death is Oklahoma's and the Nation's loss.

[From the Altus (Okla.) Times Democrat]

A Great Loss and a Challenge

Senator Robert S. Kerr had been described as Oklahoma's greatest living asset.

This great and good citizen is dead at the peak of his power and influence in the Nation's Capital. The end followed 2 weeks of enforced rest, which came too late because Bob Kerr would never stop working for the people of Oklahoma.

Senator Kerr was in this area a few days before he entered the hospital. He was very, very tired, but he would not slow down and he never complained. His life was dedicated to the service of the people of his native State.

It is doubtful that any man in history will leave his personal imprint so deeply etched on a State as Robert S. Kerr has on Oklahoma. It is to be found everywhere—religious institutions, hospitals, schools, charities, highways, parks, vast reservoirs of water that will bless and sustain us for years, job-providing industries located in Oklahoma, and through his efforts, agricultural and other developments in a hundred ways that have never been publicized.

Oklahomans have known for a long, long time that Bob Kerr truly was an amazing man. The writer was with him for most of a full day immediately following the close of the last session of Congress. It is a miracle that he lived through those grueling months. The Senator said he had slept most of 2 days after the adjournment of Congress. And if he was weary, he hardly showed it. He acted like a young man starting on a new job. There was work to be done, and he would not quit.

We spent a part of a day with him in the middle of November. He held a press conference in Tulsa at a convention of an international journalistic society. Searching questions came from a hundred reporters and magazine writers and the comment from all was that the senior Senator from Oklahoma was a most remarkable man. Senator Kerr's spirits were high and he appeared to be refreshed and stimulated by the hour-long questioning.

Senator KERR frequently was a controversial individual, but he was respected. To some he seemed to be gruff at times, but he was kind, generous, and warmhearted. He was beloved and will be honored by future generations of Oklahomans for doing so much to make this State a better place to live.

Oklahoma will miss Senator ROBERT S. KERR. His family, his personal staff, and his immediate associates know all of us grieve with them. Oklahoma faces a new challenge. We don't have BOB KERR. His great works were not all completed. We now must unite to finish his program and in a way that will honor his memory. We never again can rest on our oars and say, "BOB KERR will take care of us."

[From the Nowata Daily Star, Jan. 2, 1963]

It is to be hoped the outstanding fight conducted by Senator ROBERT S. KERR to defeat President Kennedy's socialist medicare plan will not have been in vain.

And it is to be hoped President Kennedy can't take any comfort in the knowledge that Senator KERR's death has removed a stumbling block to his socialistic legislation that would slowly but surely enslave the American people.

Senator KERR in making his all-out fight to defeat a plan that would eventually lead to a dictatorial Federal Government probably got the message across to a lot of Americans. That message was: the strength of this Nation is the freedom of each individual.

Speaking in Nowata December 6, 1961, Senator KERR told Scottish Rite Masons and their guests:

"The strength of the Nation provides the environment in which freemen live and raise families, build churches and institutions so that when they move on they leave with the knowledge they have not been unfaithful to the great heritage imposed upon them."

* * * * *

Sure, Oklahoma and the Nation have lost a great citizen and public servant. But what he believed in and fought for are the same great principles which guide the vast majority of American citizens. It is only when we permit false leaders to dazzle us with tinsel that we get into trouble.

The great program of utilizing Oklahoma's vast resources to create a stronger economy was a well-known goal of Senator KERR's. The cost of better utilizing these resources will be repaid the Federal Treasury many times over by the taxes generated by new jobs and new business.

Senator KERR had an interesting life of service. Certainly man can have no greater blessing.

[From the Oklahoma Courier, Jan. 4, 1963]

Senator Kerr

Senator Robert Kerr was unquestionably the strongest political personality in Oklahoma. His death deprives the State of the single most important element in its promising future. The immense growth that is expected in the coming decade, industrially and in population, was based primarily upon the position and influence of Robert S. Kerr.

Now, Oklahoma must face the present and immediate future without its ablest champion.

In a time and in a part of the United States where politicians are held in even less esteem than is usual, the commanding intelligence and the quick-strided leadership of the late Senator made substantial contributions toward bettering the politician's image. And the politician in the temporal realm is our most important personage. It is little less than tragic he is not recognized and treated as such.

Senator Kerr, of course, had political foes and during his lifetime undoubtedly made some bitter enemies. Whether friend or foe is a matter of no importance to him or to anyone else anymore. All that matters is that we all alike beg Almighty God to be good to one of our chief political leaders and most famous citizens.

[From the Oklahoma City (Okla.) Advertiser, Jan. 10, 1963]

Robert S. Kerr

So much has been written of Senator Robert S. Kerr since his sudden death New Year's morning one wonders, What is left to be said? And yet his interests were so varied, drama so crowded his life, the story is all but endless; and for years to come parents and grandparents will be regaling children with tales of this man, who, as Dr. Waldo Stephens said in his always fine Sunday morning program on KWTV, was truly unlike anyone else.

I am sure many of us inside the church last Friday afternoon must have thought with pricks of conscience, of those others, equally devoted and faithful, lining the streets, in the cold rain outside. For this man began his political career as the spokesman for humble men and women and, despite his millions, he never lost contact with them. In these early days Senator Kerr won his battles for election against the bitter opposition of many "at the top," who became supporters much later, when the senior Senator's place was too firm for upsetting.

All walks of life were, of course, represented both inside and outside the church, and neither city nor State has seen such an outpouring of saddened humanity to honor a public servant. Whatever the disappointments along the way, in the final moments people seem to remember.

To the gentle, healing organ music the church filled and came to epoch moments. The first, it seemed to me, was when Mike and Ellen Monroney walked slowly down the center aisle, followed by the delegation from Congress; men we knew from newspaper headlines and TV, many of them from the far corners of the country, come to honor our fellow citizen. Some there were who may not have always agreed with Senator KERR, but all had come to pay a last tribute to a man they honored and respected.

The second emotion-packed moment came when former Mayor Allen Street, his own face showing the strain, led President John F. Kennedy, Vice President and Mrs. Lyndon Johnson, and Gov. and Mrs. J. Howard Edmondson to their first row seats, just across from the space which Mrs. Robert S. Kerr and the family next quietly filed in to take.

The minister's reading of the First Psalm, of course, had more than the usual meaning:

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly. But his delight is in the law of the Lord. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

When the service was over a fine drizzle had begun to fall again, and as I walked back to the office other scriptural words came to me, these from Ecclesiastes.

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted."

The heritage of a life such as Senator KERR's is rich beyond computation, alike to family and the State and Nation he served. It is a small matter that not everyone agreed with all he said, with all his votes. He served faithfully to the end.

Senator KERR was blessed in many ways. Dr. Stephens said Sunday morning that his ability to accumulate this world's goods came from his pioneer spirit, the ability to apply this same spirit in the world of science, air, and space, the facility to bridge the inbetween gaps.

And certainly Senator KERR was blessed in the manner of his going, in his time to die. A man at the very pinnacle of his fame, the flush of success warm on his brow, trusted confidant of his country's great, no lingering illness, no weeks or years of empty idleness removed from the fray he loved.

How well, I wonder, will we learn the lessons in such a life. Certain it is we cannot all amass such fortunes—even on promise to share in many good works as he did. But perhaps we can learn better our lessons of determined loyalty to principles he held dear, causes for which he labored and on which the well-being of today's world may well hang.

Excerpts From Editorials in Oklahoma Newspapers

Pryor Daily Times: "Senator Kerr never hid the fact that he was in Washington to obtain all of the political plums possible for his home State. He regarded that as his first duty and succeeded at it at the same time his role as a national political power reached lofty heights. His loss to Oklahoma is immeasurable. The Kerr shoes are big and will be difficult to fill."

Muskogee Phoenix: "The people of this State were shocked Tuesday morning just before the Oklahoma-Alabama football game when the TV audience was told that there would be an interruption for a special bulletin—and then in a moment the announcer said: 'It has just been announced that Senator Kerr has died.' A great shock it is indeed. Oklahoma has lost her greatest citizen and probably the most powerful man the State has produced in its 55 years of existence."

RECALL MEDICARE FIGHT

Nowata Star: "It is to be hoped the outstanding fight by Senator Robert S. Kerr to defeat President Kennedy's socialist medicare plan will not have been in vain. Senator Kerr in making his all-out fight to defeat a plan that would eventually lead to a dictatorial Federal Goverment, probably got the message across to a lot of Americans. That message was: The strength of this Nation is the freedom of each individual."

Norman Transcript: "While his public service career spanned a period of only 20 years, his tireless energy, strength of purpose and dedication to the causes in which he believed enabled him to write a record that will stand for a long time in Oklahoma."

The Duncan Banner: "Oklahoma faces a new challenge. We don't have Bob Kerr. His great works were not all completed and we now must unite to finish his program. In that way, we will honor his memory. We never again can rest on our oars and say: 'Bob Kerr will take care of it.'"

Daily Ardmoreite, Ardmore: "Kerr's big dream was to make Oklahoma an industrial State and he lived to see the start of that dream, with many new industries coming to the State. Starting out life in a log cabin, Kerr's life is an example that

anyone can be successful in America and he rose from those humble beginnings to become an oil millionaire and a key figure in the Senate."

McAlester News-Capital: "His importance is shown by the fact that the future of President Kennedy's legislative program has been put in doubt, and there well may have been a cloud drawn over Oklahoma water projects by his death. Senator KERR's death also shifts responsibility for many important Oklahoma programs to his colleague, Senator Mike Monroney."

The Ada Evening News: "Mrs. Robert S. Kerr, sons, daughter, and grandchildren are suffering heart pains they have never known before.

"Their distinguished husband, father, and grandfather has been cut down at the peak of his influence in home, in church, in business, in State, and National and world affairs.

"But, friends, we here in Ada, the men and women who grew up with our BOB, those who were here before he grew to acknowledged greatness and those who have grown up in later years but have know of his multiplte activities, also are heartbroken. We know we have lost a dear friend, one who cannot be replaced, and thus there will always be a void in our hearts."

The Pawhuska Journal: "Many, many tributes will be paid to Senator BOB KERR in the press and elsewhere this week. Many of them will be eloquent and impressive.

"There is little we can say about Senator KERR other than a rather all-inclusive statement that has been heard here often the past 2 days: 'We sure will miss "Ole Bob." ' "

The Anadarko Daily News: "The death of Senator ROBERT S. KERR put a heavy damper upon the start of a new year.

"Few if any communities had not felt the personal touch of service from the senior Senator. Few if any communities were not looking to great expansion in the future by the development of eastern and central Oklahoma River navigation. Our State's industrial climate was being adjusted to accommodate the almost unlimited space program that was being guided by Senator KERR.

"It will take all of the political cooperation that can be developed within the Democratic Party of Oklahoma to hold the advance which has been made. And this cooperation must come at a time when the Democratic Party has lost its most determined leader."

The Cushing Daily Citizen: " 'There were giants on the earth in those days.'—Genesis 6: 4.

"Historians of the future, and not necessarily the distant future, will record that ROBERT S. KERR was a giant in those days in which he lived to manhood and carved out a career of achievement. His strides were long and his workloads stupendous.

"If Will Rogers was Oklahoma's most loved citizen, then KERR was its most powerful. Some say that Senator KERR thought himself indestructible. That I would deny.

"He only thought himself expendable. He was so deeply concerned with aims and goals, with the work he hoped to do for the world in which he lived, that it never occurred to him to spare himself."

The Woods County Enterprise: "Oklahoma suffered two great losses New Year's Day. However, the State will recover from Sooner's Orange Bowl loss to Alabama much sooner than it will from the death of Senator ROBERT S. KERR."

The Sapulpa Daily Herald: "Ask 10 persons what they think the death of Senator BOB KERR will mean to Oklahoma and most likely all will express an opinion of doubt as to the State's future in the space age from the standpoint of new industries.

"There is no denying the fact that many of the space-age people were opening up facilities in Oklahoma for the principal reason that they wanted to be counted among the constituency of Senator KERR.

"As to the Arkansas River development, it must be assumed the Government has too great an investment in the project to abandon it at this late date. And, too, Senator Mike Monroney is one of the ranking Members of the Senate and he now will swing an even greater stick for Oklahoma and the many projects now in the hopper.

"But, for the most part, Oklahoma surely will be able to grow industrially despite the severe loss created by KERR's death. The Oklahoma congressional delegation, now led by Monroney, has worked as a team and the show will continue in the future as it has in the past."

[From the Oklahoma Union Farmer, February 1963]

The Oklahoma Farmers Union and all rural Oklahoma lost a great friend and stanch ally New Year's Day in Washington when death came to ROBERT SAMUEL KERR, Oklahoma senior Senator.

While he climbed to heights found by few in American finance and politics, KERR never moved, spiritually, far from the Pontotoc County farm where he first saw light 66 years ago. Always he found renewed strength in close comradeship with those who tilled the soil of the Sooner State. His hopes were theirs; his interest theirs, too; and his ambitions ran hand in hand with those of Oklahoma farm families.

Since the middle 1940's, when KERR served as Oklahoma's first native-born Governor, the jovial giant of Oklahoma politics and

finance was a frequent and willing speaker at OFU conventions. Many times he dropped pressing engagements in private and public affairs and came winging halfway across the Nation in his own aircraft because he wanted to be with us.

* * * * * * *

While he dwarfed even the late Gov. E. W. Marland in accumulation of a personal fortune * * * and unlike him retained it * * * money was never the supreme thing with Senator KERR. "I was just as happy when I didn't have a dollar," he said, and we believe he meant it.

In the list of things that count, KERR's religion and his friends stood far above material possessions. It was a simple religion, and he was a stanch soldier in the Baptist faith; but he granted a wide and protective tolerance to those of all other beliefs.

KERR bridged the gap between the log cabin and space-age generation Americans. Yet he was at home in both. He was almost the last of American statesmen who could boast of a log cabin beginning. Few in American politics have died at the apex of power where he stood at the moment he was stricken.

His was a unique character. Yet in it were many of the qualities of Lincoln, more than a bit of Senator George Norris, and a lot of both the first and second Roosevelts. We think he and Newt Gresham would have found great comradeship, too.

[From the Oklahoma Rural News, publication of the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives, Feb. 1, 1963]

SENATOR ROBERT S. KERR

The late Senator KERR's battles for rural electrification have been classic rounds which will long be remembered in the Halls of Congress.

"My own background has given me a devoted interest in rural electrification," he says in "Land, Wood, and Water." "I have seen the rural electric cooperative bring a revolution to the farms in just one generation.

"When I was a young man, few farmers could get electricity. Private utility companies could not or would not string lines to isolated farms. So we read by kerosene lamps and milked the cows by hand."

Thus impressed he bucked the powerful Senate Appropriations Committee while yet only a freshman Senator and won his battle.

Southwestern Power Administration sought a continuing fund to give it greater flexibility in the sale and purchase of power. If its bill failed in Congress SPA officials feared it would be "thrown

back into the arms of the private utilities whose affection they doubted and whose prices they feared."

In this situation Senator KERR took the floor to tell the Senate he hoped its action would not leave the rural electrics in a fix similar to the tall awkward country boy who was brought into a doctor's office in the foothills of the Ozarks by a stern-visaged oldster who said, "Doc, I want you to fix up my son-in-law."

"What's his trouble?" asked the doctor.

"Oh, I shot him in the laig yestiddy and lamed him up a mite."

"Shame on you," said the doctor, "for shooting your own son-in-law."

Which brought this brisk rejoinder, "Well, you see, he wairn't my son-in-law 'til I shot him."

With this story the Senator made his point: that without his amendment, rural cooperatives and municipalities could be headed for a shotgun wedding with the utilities, which was exactly what they did not want.

Battling for public power projects and cheaper electricity for rural folks seemed to come natural to him. Through it all he retained the mark of a really great man—the ability to laugh even at himself. Relating his clash with the director of the New York State Power Authority over hydroelectric power development of Niagara Falls, Senator KERR says:

"After the two of us had blown off enough steam to operate a small generating facility, we finally agreed to proceed * * * to find an acceptable formula to permit the great project to go forward."

He was winner in the historic controversy over financing the Tennessee Valley Authority as well as of many others. Of them he says:

"Out of all these and the numerous other legislative battles and debates, a constructive power policy has been and will be hammered out of Congress. The goal must be to develop our natural resources to have the greatest value to the most people."

His fight for rural electricity alone entrenched him firmly and everlastingly in the hearts of rural people throughout the Nation.

IN THE U.S. SENATE,
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 1963.

Mr. MONRONEY. Mr. President, I send to the desk a resolution adopted by the Oklahoma State Legislature, on the 20th day of May 1963, paying tribute to the life and activities of the Honorable ROBERT S. KERR; memorializing the Secre-

tary of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare and the Oklahoma congressional delegation to designate the Water Pollution Laboratory at Ada, Okla., as the "Robert S. Kerr Water Research Center"; and directing distribution of copies of this resolution.

Senator KERR, as the chairman of the Rivers and Harbors-Flood Control Subcommittee of the Public Works Committee, was largely responsible for the favorable action taken on Public Law 660 to extend and strengthen the Water Pollution Control Act. This has come to be the Magna Carta in the Federal Government's activities in connection with its efforts to render usable the water resources of this country, which we all know will soon be in short supply if we cannot, through pollution abatement and control, provide for the reuse of the streamflows of this Nation.

After the adoption of Public Law 660 in 1956 Senator KERR continued his efforts to increase the effectiveness of the basic legislation which the Congress had adopted. On July 20, 1961, Public Law 87 was adopted to amend the Federal Pollution Control Act to provide for a more effective program of water pollution control, and for other purposes. It was in this amendment to Public Law 660 that the Congress authorized the construction of pollution control laboratories to be manned by highly skilled and technical personnel to attack the pollution problems on regional levels in order that greater speed might be accomplished than was indicated under the original act. Also under this amendment was provision for increasing the Federal participation with cities and towns for the construction of sewage treatment works, as was a section to provide for water quality control through the impoundment of water in Federal reservoirs for release at critical times in order that a quality of water might be maintained in our stream systems.

This is only a part of the great work that the late Senator KERR did in connection with the matter of clearing up our streams and making available for use limited water supplies throughout the Nation.

Therefore, Mr. President, it seems altogether fitting that the Public Health Laboratory which will be constructed on a site within view of the birthplace of ROBERT S. KERR might bear his name as a continuing reminder that this man, from his humble beginning to a place of exalted influence, was ever using his energies for the benefit of generations to come.

The resolution is as follows:

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 546

Resolution paying tribute to the life and activities of the Honorable ROBERT S. KERR; memorializing the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare and the Oklahoma congressional delegation to designate the Water Pollution Laboratory at Ada, Okla., as the "Robert S. Kerr Water Research Center"; and directing distribution of copies of this resolution

Whereas the life and activities of the Honorable ROBERT S. KERR from the fireside of an Indian Territory log cabin to the council tables of the most exalted and influential leaders of men, reflects and epitomizes the great dream and image instilled into the heart of every American who breathes the perfumed air of liberty and swells with pride at the melody of freedom in action; and

Whereas the Honorable ROBERT S. KERR fully represented all the people of the State of Oklahoma with courage, conviction, and tenacity; and through boundless energy, commonsense, intelligence, and decisive debate, he established a position as one of the most revered and influential personalities of our time; and

Whereas it was the great dream of such an admirable man that this State would be one of the most active water ports in the Central United States, which resulted in the devotion of his every activity to the accomplishment of such a dream; and

Whereas the birthplace of ROBERT S. KERR, and the old Kerr homestead, was 3 miles south of Ada; the people of the State of Oklahoma, through their elected representatives, wish to create a perpetual memorial in memory of their most beloved citizen and leader; and

Whereas it is the desire of the 29th session of the Oklahoma Legislature that action be taken to name the Water Pollution Laboratory at Ada, Okla., the "Robert S. Kerr Water Research Center": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the 29th session of the Legislature of the State of Oklahoma (the senate concurring therein),

SECTION 1. That we respectfully request the Oklahoma delegation of the Congress of the United States, and the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, to act promptly in support of legislation necessary for such a designation.

SEC. 2. That duly authenticated copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Oklahoma congressional delegation and the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Adopted by the house of representatives the 2d day of May 1963.

J. W. MCCARTY,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Adopted by the senate the 20th day of May 1963.

_____ _____,

President of the Senate.

Tributes by Representative Steed

Of Oklahoma

Mr. STEED. Mr. Speaker, at the funeral services for Senator ROBERT S. KERR at Oklahoma City, January 4, an eloquent and fitting tribute was paid by one of his closest friends, Dr. John W. Raley, chancellor of Oklahoma Baptist University.

For almost 30 years Senator KERR and Dr. Raley were co-workers, building together for the future of Oklahoma and at the same time performing tremendous work for the Baptist denomination.

As Dr. Raley has brought about one achievement after another on the campus of Oklahoma Baptist University at Shawnee, Senator KERR as a distinguished Baptist layman was always in the forefront of the accomplishment.

It was truly appropriate that Dr. Raley was among those delivering tributes at the services when Oklahoma lost its most outstanding statesman.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Dr. Raley's tribute may be included as part of my remarks.

The matter referred to follows:

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT SAMUEL KERR, SENIOR SENATOR OF OKLAHOMA

(By John Wesley Raley)

ROBERT SAMUEL KERR, son of the red soil of frontier Oklahoma, humbly born, found his way to national leadership through the complex maze of the 20th century.

Caught up in the impatient velocity of our time, he matched his day and climaxed his career by probing the very edges of space.

His lifework and his interests define him in many frames of reference—a schoolteacher, lawyer, soldier, rancher, oilman, industrialist, statesman, humanitarian, author, orator, and churchman.

It is my deep honor to speak of him today as I knew him best, Oklahoma's beloved Baptist layman. Senator KERR was not only Mr. Oklahoma at home and around the world, he was Mr. Okla-

homa Baptist Layman as well. Though he did not limit his good deeds to Baptist enterprises, he did earn this title by right of conquest through dedicated service to Baptist causes. The strategy of his religion was also the strategy of his life. He would lock his interest and strength onto something much greater than any resources he could muster alone. By such a process he merged with greatness. Following this basic strategy of sublimating the level of his own interests to that of great enterprises and religious causes, he shared in the rewards of a just providence and increased his strength for yet greater tasks ahead. He possessed the quality of intensity of concentration on any given problem and unrelenting drive toward any given objective. By this discipline he was enabled to serve in many capacities.

While he relied on brainpower and drive, Senator KERR was humble, apt to learn, and dedicated—in the words of his business partner, Dean McGee—"a Christian gentleman." The Senator brought all these personal powers into a beautiful synthesis with his concern for people. All humanitarian causes have been strengthened by his hands; orphaned children have been fed, clothed, and sheltered; the aged, sick, and the unfortunate given care; the education of youth upgraded; and all the resources of Oklahoma enriched because Senator KERR cared. At the present moment the strength of his life is applied to double the facilities of the Baptist Memorial Hospital in Oklahoma City.

On a more personal note, Senator KERR is OBU's greatest benefactor. Most of the buildings on the OBU campus, including the beautiful Mrs. W. S. Kerr Memorial Dormitory which honors his mother, bear in part the KERR image. His gifts through the endowment fund of the Baptist Foundation make beneficiaries of all the OBU faculty members for all time to come. Our loss can be measured only by the sustaining greatness of the days of his strength. OBU has lost her most generous friend, and I have lost another lifetime partner in dreams and accomplishments.

To conclude this tribute to my old friend and partner in Christian service, I should like to recall his final statement to me after a tour of the new chapel at OBU a little over a month ago. He had studied it carefully—the great auditorium with its beautiful tones of soft colors in brick and wood and the dramatic art windows. Then standing in the foyer, he read word by word the memorial tablet of bronze projecting the dreams of such a building into the purposes of the Baptists of Oklahoma. Having read every word he nodded approval, then said, "A worthy dream beautifully stated, happily realized, and though many years of hard work came between the dream and its realization, the chapel is worthy of both the dream and the dreamer and laborer." Then with a twinkle in

his sharp blue eyes he said, "Now that you have got the chapel, I suppose you are going to let me in on your next big enterprise at OBU."

My answer then can be repeated today to him and all his loved ones in full Christian faith, "Yes, Senator, you will always be in on every adventure of faith I shall undertake. Your life is forever linked to God's cause at OBU."

Mr. STEED. Mr. Speaker, Senator ROBERT S. KERR'S outstanding book, "Land, Wood, and Water," one of the most substantial contributions to the field of conservation literature, has been reprinted this month in softcover form, in a revised version. Thus it will become available to a new circle of readers. One of the last acts of the Senator before he was fatally stricken January 1 was to complete the revisions for the new edition.

In one sense, Senator KERR'S political career lasted exactly 21 years. His announcement party as a candidate for Governor of Oklahoma was held on Jefferson's birthday, April 13, 1942, at Ada. And his final act as Senator was to complete the arrangements for the revised edition of "Land, Wood, and Water," to be published on Jefferson's birthday, April 13, 1963. An introduction by Vice President Johnson says in part:

BOB KERR had the strength of the pioneers of old and the daring of the pioneers of today, and he gave both to his country in full measure. To his friends, he gave his brain, his compassion, and his wit. It is a duller world without him.

Just as history has identified George Norris with the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Arkansas River of tomorrow, bustling with the traffic of commerce and recreation, will be a living monument to the vision and leadership of BOB KERR. This laboratory of trial and success in the Southwest is pointing the way for a national program of harnessing our rivers and cleansing the waters.

Now that he is gone, his printed message takes on new significance. It can help fill the vacuum of his absent leadership and inspire new effort for the cause of conservation, to which he dedicated his energies and his very life.

In a revision in the paperback, Senator KERR recalls that the Special Senate Water Committee, urged the comprehen-

sive development of the Nation's river basins, and the KERR plan became the accepted pattern to bring this about. He quotes President Kennedy as saying that:

> The administration accepts the goals urged by the committee to develop comprehensive river basin plans by 1970, in cooperation with the individual States.

And Senator KERR concludes:

> The Arkansas-Red River Valley is already showing the way to do this.

Senator KERR always revered Thomas Jefferson for his fundamental principles and as the patron saint of the Democratic Party. In recognition of this, BOB KERR chose to launch his own political career on Jefferson's birthday, at his hometown of Ada. His father, Sam Kerr, a Jeffersonian Democrat and an Ada pioneer, had a profound influence on BOB KERR and his political thinking.

On April 13, 1942, a big rally was staged for KERR at Ada for the formal launching of his candidacy for Governor of Oklahoma. His father had died 2 years before, but KERR's mother was still living and occupied a place of honor on the platform. KERR made several references to his father and the early influence. The Ada Evening News began its account with the statement that "Sam Kerr would have been proud of his son that night." His father had first planted the seeds of political ambition in his oldest son, and the governorship was the first goal.

Senator KERR's staff member and biographer, Malvina Stephenson, recently found some handwritten pages prepared by him for a speech, most of which was devoted to Jefferson. One part says:

> Jefferson, who saw far beyond his times and who helped build a foundation for a better day, was revered by many and loved by most. He was, however, hated by a few because of his so-called radical proposals, one of which was freedom of religious worship. He opposed the existing order whereby the church dominated the state and through it compelled all to become members of and to support the established church.

Like Jefferson, ROBERT S. KERR saw far beyond his own day and helped to bend the future to his will. Like Jefferson, he built his home on a mountaintop overlooking the wide valleys and far-spreading plains of his native State, and from this commanding vista ever broadened his own horizon.

On the occasion of the publication of the revised book the Ada Evening News, one of a number of newspapers running excerpts from it in installment form, commented editorially on the Senator's career. This article, an appropriate tribute from the newspaper of ROBERT S. KERR's hometown, follows:

[From the Ada Evening News, Apr. 16, 1963]

AIM HIGH—ACCOMPLISH GREAT THINGS

"What is the use of living if it be not to strive for noble causes and to make this world a better place for those who will live in it after we are gone."

The above quotation is from Winston Churchill, who lived to accomplish great things after he was 65 years old. It was not a political statement nor any effort on his part to appear as a missionary. He said what he thought and felt and knew. And he knew that for society to continue to live well, improvements must come.

We use the quotation, not to praise Churchill, but to illustrate that most great men have become great because they had great visions and brought those visions into realities.

The Ada News began yesterday an 18-installment series of "Land, Wood, and Water," a book written by the late Senator ROBERT S. KERR, which has already won a high place in libraries of science, government, and sociology. You will feel elated, depressed, challenged, and above all informed by reading this condensation.

The book sums up the dream BOB KERR had to make Pontotoc County, Okla., and the United States "a better place for those who will live in it after we are gone."

The book represents in no small way a lifetime of study and thought about the conservation of natural resources. But he had no opportunity to put his conclusions into practical application until he had gained power in the U.S. Senate. But even then he did not depend entirely upon his own conclusions. He formed a research group, headed by Don McBride, to study water problems principally in Oklahoma, but also in the United States as a whole. The book includes the results of the research as well as the things

learned while Bob was a lad working in the field, a student at East Central State College, a student at Oklahoma Baptist University, a student of law, and the research into natural resources by the organization now known as Kerr-McGee Oil Industries. All of these studies were coordinated and brought down to sentences packed with thought and ways to accomplish the essentials to preserve nature's gifts.

If you did not read Monday's first installment, be certain to get your paper and read it carefully. Then you should read each installment as it comes out. And we suggest also that you clip the installments, fasten them together and keep them for reference in the future.

Bob Kerr did great things in many lines. His was a multipurpose mind and intellect. He built an empire of developing natural resources he had learned existed in various parts of this country. He contributed to churches and educational institutions. He got the Congress and the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare to put a research laboratory here near the center of the White, Arkansas, and Red River watersheds. This institution, which should grow to be of vast importance to all the Southwestern States, will soon rise on a beautiful hilltop 2 miles south of the campus of East Central, with which it will be coordinated. It will also be the first of what Ada folk believe will be a vast park for Government and private research. And naturally it will include a complex of Kerr memorial buildings, including the cabin in which he was born.

But don't overlook the opportunity to read the condensed version of the famous book, or if you prefer, get the book and keep it in your home.

The Ada News is delighted to bring this condensation to you. In fact, we consider it an honor to do just that.

Tributes by Senator Stennis

Of Mississippi

Mr. STENNIS. Mr. President, I wish to have printed one of the greatest funeral services I have ever heard. It was delivered at our friend's funeral by his pastor, the Reverend Mr. Herschel H. Hobbs, of the First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City, Okla. Those of us who heard that great man pay that wonderful tribute to BOB KERR knew that Rev. Mr. Hobbs was talking about the same man we had known.

EULOGY FOR SENATOR ROBERT S. KERR, BY REV. MR. HERSCHEL H. HOBBS, PASTOR, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.

(SCRIPTURE: PSALM 1: 1–3)

We are gathered today, the great and the lowly, to honor the memory of a great man who was a friend to both. We would not disturb the memories which fill your hearts and minds. Rather we would leave them to each of you as precious treasures to be enjoyed in the secrecy of your own life. But we would seek to voice for all a tribute regarding one who lived wonderfully and wrought greatly among us.

President James A. Garfield said, "I mean to make myself a man, and if I succeed in that, I shall succeed in everything."

ROBERT S. KERR was a man in the highest sense of that word. Before he made his first dollar, or his fame had spread beyond the bounds of Pontotoc County, Okla., he was a man. He possessed a character endowed with the possibility for greatness. His was a character ingrained with qualities of righteousness received at the hands of a pioneer mother and father. More than once he was heard to say, "My old daddy was the greatest man I ever knew."

And though he was destined to rise to the dizzy heights of economic and governmental power, he brought to those heights these principles of righteousness which were the very warp and woof of his being. He was always a man.

He was a man of vision. ROBERT S. KERR was a walking commentary on the words of Robert Browning:

> "Ah, but a man's reach should exceed his grasp
> Else what's a heaven for?"

ROBERT SAMUEL KERR

There is a vast difference between a visionary man and a man of vision. Our friend was the latter. He dreamed great dreams, and then turned them into realities. To whatever task he set his hands, he did so not merely with a view of things as they were but what they could become. Thus he saw vast economic empires where none existed before. He envisioned cargo-bearing streams and life-giving water amidst vast prairies and rolling hills, derricks in the ocean, homes for orphaned children, seats of learning for youth, and sustenance for the aged.

No one man could achieve in one lifetime the visions which ever beckoned him on. But he blazed trails, pointed the way, and challenged others to pursue the goals to whose achievements he gave his last ounce of energy and devotion.

Robert S. Kerr was a man of wisdom. His ready wit was exceeded only by his sober judgment. When he spoke he did so in utterances based upon facts. When he lifted his voice others listened, convinced not by the flow of his oratory but by the soundness of his reason. His encyclopedic mind amazed both friend and foe. He was always ready to listen to the counsel of others. And he was never too busy to give wise counsel when sought. Almost infinite was his patience as he sought to lead others to see and understand that which was so clearly comprehended by him. For he was blessed with a mind which readily could sift the wheat of decision from the chaff of details.

Robert S. Kerr was a man of courage. His life was a moving drama of the American dream. Born in a log cabin to poor but righteous, hard-working parents, he rose to sit in the councils of the mighty. His slogan of "Land, Wood, and Water" was a dramatic testimony to the basic origin of his courage and stamina. In his journey across the years he encountered many obstacles, but none so great as to cause him to dip his colors. Often in times of difficulty in a given enterprise when the courage of others seemed to fail, one heartening challenge from the Senator brought others back to face resolutely the problem and to win the victory.

Our friend possessed not only physical but moral courage. Men might criticize his program but never his principles. He never sacrificed personal convictions on the altar of questionable conduct. And he will ever remain a monument of a man in the world but not of it.

Robert S. Kerr was a man of faith. He had an unshakable faith in God and in God's Word. On his desk was always seen a much-used Bible. Often when he was alone his secretary would find him reading from its pages as he filled his soul with its precepts and power. Or he was reading and expounding its message to a friend. On one occasion he is reported to have read Psalm

91: 7 to one whose courage had failed. "A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee." "Do you believe it?" asked the Senator. "Do you really believe it? Then quit worrying, and live by it." He ever fortified his advice by his example.

Because he had faith in God he had faith in men. His life was that of a thousand because he entrusted vast enterprises to others. He gave absolute loyalty to those about him, and received the same in return.

No task was too great or too small for him to undertake for a friend. Many years ago this speaker asked him to leave his many duties in Washington to travel to San Francisco, at his own expense, to address a group of pastors. He agreed, saying, "A wish from my partner is a command performance. I'll be there."

Robert S. Kerr gave much and expected little in return. Many years ago he published what he called "A Prayer for My Pastor."

"Our Father, let me be a pillar of strength to help hold him up and not a thorn in his flesh to sap his strength, nor a burden on his back to pull him down.

"Let me support him without striving to possess him.

"Let me lift his hands without placing shackles around them.

"Let me give him help that he may devote more time in working for the salvation of others and less time in gratifying my vanity.

"Let me work for him as the pastor of all the members and not compel him to spend precious time in bragging on me.

"Let me be unselfish in what I do for him and not selfish in demanding that he do more for me.

"Let me strive to serve him and the church much and be happy as he serves me less and the church and others more."

And God answered his prayer a thousandfold.

But most wonderful of all was Robert S. Kerr's simple, childlike faith in Jesus Christ and his personal Saviour. In this hour it matters not how much wealth one accumulated. Or how much fame adheres to one's name. But one thing matters. What did you do with Jesus who is called the Christ? Bob Kerr trusted in Christ in life. He has found Him trustworthy in death.

For years the Senator carried an engagement pad in his pocket. Its many entries bespoke the stature and the stress of the life that he lived. But always at the head of each page were written these words:

"Be near me when my feet
Are slipping over the brink;
For I am nearer home today,
Nearer, perhaps, than now I think."

These were prophetic words. For in a moment of quiet serenity he slipped away to be with the Lord. And even before the news media carried the word of his going to a shocked Nation, he heard the glad, triumphant words of the Saviour whom he loved and served. "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Many trees grow in the forest and are cut down, the only evidence of their going being the stumps which they leave. But once in a great while a mighty oak falls. And falling, it leaves a vacancy against the sky.

Robert S. Kerr was such an oak. Who will take his place? Alas! None will take it. For he received it not by appointment, but through achievement. What one mighty man began, many must continue. And doing so, we shall realize for him that he did not live, nor did he die, in vain.

God help us to make it so.

Tributes by Senator Smith

Of Maine

Mrs. SMITH. Mr. President, at another time I shall pay my respects to the late ROBERT S. KERR in greater detail. Suffice it to say now, he was one of the very best friends that I had in the U.S. Senate—and as a committee chairman he accorded to me more committee consideration than anyone else.

So that the record may be straight and in full justice to this great Senator for whom I had so much respect and admiration, I have written that distinguished reporter, Mr. Marshall McNeil, a letter as follows:

U.S. SENATE,
Washington, D.C., January 23, 1963.

Mr. MARSHALL MCNEIL,
Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance,
Senate Press Gallery,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. MCNEIL: In all friendliness, I want to say to you that while he was chairman of the Space Committee, the late Senator ROBERT S. KERR kept me fully advised with respect to matters before the committee and never in the dark.

In fact, no committee chairman ever kept me so currently informed, so constantly sought my reaction, and so completely extended consideration and courtesy to me as did BOB KERR.

Sincerely yours,

MARGARET CHASE SMITH,
U.S. Senator.

Tributes by Senator Yarborough

Of Texas

Mr. YARBOROUGH. Mr. President, I have read many articles about Senator KERR since he passed away; but of all those I have read, both from my own State and from Oklahoma and other States, the one which I thought was best and that I liked the best was the one entitled "President, Other Leaders Pay Tribute to KERR," published in the Tulsa Daily World of Wednesday, January 2, 1963. Since I think it was the best of the many articles I read, I ask unanimous consent that it be printed.

The article is as follows:

[From the Tulsa Daily World, Jan. 2, 1963]

PRESIDENT, OTHER LEADERS PAY TRIBUTE TO KERR

Many called Senator ROBERT S. KERR, Democrat, of Oklahoma, the uncrowned king of the Senate and his sudden death Tuesday in Washington brought an outpouring of sorrowing comment from President John F. Kennedy and the Nation's leaders.

The President learned of KERR's death from a heart ailment while flying by helicopter from Palm Beach to Miami for the Orange Bowl football game.

"He possessed a unique combination of talents, which joined with his deep devotion to his State and Nation, brought him to a high place in American public life," said the President.

"His legislative accomplishments were exceptional. In the last 2 years alone, almost every major bill enacted bore the mark of his untiring leadership and skill—the space program, the trade bill, the tax bill of 1962, the improvements in social welfare and in national resources development. He will be greatly missed when the Senate opens next week and even more so in the months ahead."

Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson, long a personal friend of KERR, said KERR "had the strength of the pioneers of old and daring of the pioneers of today and he gave both to his country in full measure."

He said he had never known a more effective legislator and that "America has lost one of our great resources."

"He was a man of brilliance and great ability," said Senator Harry F. Byrd, Democrat, of Virginia, for whom KERR often acted as the ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee.

"He will be mourned by his political foes as well as his allies because both admired him," said John Bailey, chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

Oklahoma's Governor-elect Henry Bellmon, from his home at Billings, said "Few men in our history have reached the pinnacle of power attained by Senator KERR and no man has had a more profound effect on his native State.

"Generations unborn will pay homage to his great vision and to his tireless efforts in behalf of Oklahoma."

"It is the most severe loss that Oklahoma has suffered among its public figures since statehood," said House Majority Leader Carl Albert, a fellow Oklahoman. "He is absolutely irreplaceable."

Senator Clinton P. Anderson, Democrat, of New Mexico, said KERR's death was a great loss to the Nation.

"He was a great developer of property and did a lot for the uranium industry in New Mexico."

Senator Mike Monroney, called his colleague's death an "irreplaceable loss" to the Nation.

"Senator KERR's death takes away from the service of the Nation at this critical time a man whose ability, energy, and dedication to public service had won him preeminence of leadership in the Senate," Monroney said.

Senator Jennings Randolph, Democrat, of West Virginia, said KERR "possessed a keen mind and a strong will."

Bailey termed KERR "one of the great Senators of his era in history."

U.S. Representative Ed Edmondson, of Muskogee, said "I think, in the loss of Senator KERR, Oklahoma suffered its greatest loss in our generation. We lost a great leader in the field of statecraft, in the field of industry, and in the spiritual life of our State and country. And his loss is irreparable for Oklahoma.

"I think the project closest to his heart was probably the Arkansas River Basin program. In his memory I expect to introduce in the next session of Congress, legislation to name the Arkansas River navigation system the Robert S. Kerr Seaway, and I feel it will have unanimous support in both the House and the Senate."

Representative John Jarman, Democrat, of Oklahoma, said Oklahoma's congressional delegation has "lost a great leader."

"Senator KERR literally gave his life and his talents to his church and State," said Representative Victor Wickersham, Democrat, Oklahoma.

"Oklahoma has lost her most valuable asset," said Representative Tom Steed, Democrat, of Oklahoma. "There has never been or ever will be anyone like him in public service."

Oklahoma Gov. J. Howard Edmondson, already mentioned as a possible successor to KERR, brushed away tears after he was informed of KERR's death while attending the Orange Bowl football game in Miami, Fla.

"His death is a great loss to the country and especially to Oklahoma."

Gov. Buford Ellington, of Tennessee, a personal as well as political friend, said he was deeply grieved.

He said the loss would be felt "by the entire country, to which he devoted so many years of service."

State Democratic Chairman Gene McGill, of Oklahoma, said, "It's a great loss to Oklahoma, the Nation, the Democratic Party and to me, for he was a very good friend."

Former Oklahoma Gov. Raymond Gary, who had feuded privately with KERR during last year's campaign and indicated he would run against him in 1966, said, "I have always admired Senator KERR because of his ability, courage, and untiring efforts he would put forth to make a success of whatever he undertook to do."

Dean McGee, KERR'S partner in the oil business, said, "He was not only a great man, he was a great gentleman along with it."

B. Hayden Crawford, Tulsa attorney who ran against KERR in 1960, said, "This is a great loss to the State of Oklahoma. I extend my deep sympathy to his family and associates."

Senator John Stennis, Democrat, of Mississippi, who served with KERR on the Senate Space Committee, called KERR'S death a personal loss as well as a loss to the Senate, said, "I certainly am grieved." He was "one of our great leaders and one of the most versatile men I have ever known and a fine gentleman."

Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield, of Montana, called KERR'S death "a tragic, unexpected loss that will be felt most keenly in the Senate, in Oklahoma, and in the Nation."

Senator Frank Carlson, of Kansas, said KERR'S death cost this Nation "one of its greatest citizens and the Senate one of its ablest Members."

The Kansas Republican, at home in Concordia for the New Year's holiday, said, "Senator KERR'S death is a tremendous loss to the Midwest and the Nation."

Former Gov. Roy J. Turner said the loss of Senator KERR "can't be anything but tragic."

Turner, who ran against KERR for the Democratic nomination for the Senate in 1954, said, "It's a real tragic thing to have happened. I don't know what else I can say about it."

Senator Herman E. Talmadge, Democrat, of Georgia, said the death "is a great tragedy for our country."

Talmadge said he served with KERR the past 4 years on the Senate Finance Committee and "he had the most incisive, retentive mind that I have ever known.

"He was an extremely hard worker, being well prepared on all bills and all issues," Talmadge continued.

"When he made up his mind as to what was best for our country, no amount of pressure from any source could deter him from his convictions. As a warm personal friend I deeply mourn his passing."

Tributes by Senator Long

Of Missouri

Mr. LONG. Mr. President, I ask that five editorials from Missouri newspapers, which are typical of the many appearing in newspapers throughout my State, be printed as follows:

[From the St. Joseph (Mo.) News-Press, Jan. 2, 1963]

A Friend Has Gone

Although they didn't have much to say about it, Democrats of this congressional district backed U.S. Senator Robert S. Kerr, of Oklahoma, for the party's nomination for President in 1952. The Senator died yesterday.

Ellis Cook, of Maryville, and DeWitt Campbell, of North Kansas City, were the delegates of this northwest Missouri district at the Chicago convention that year. They were uninstructed. Adlai Stevenson seemed to be the front runner, but they came out at the start for Senator Kerr. Mr. Stevenson went on to win the nomination—but nothing else.

Only a little more than 2 months ago, Senator Kerr in the waning days of the 1962 election campaign came into this Sixth District to make a speech for Congressman William R. Hull and U.S. Senator Edward V. Long. He spoke at a fundraising dinner at North Kansas City.

It was a typical Kerr speech. He was a man of powerful voice and an orator of the old school, one given to tying in Biblical quotations to make political points. For example the Biblical verb "smite" fit often into the woof and warp of his political blasts at the opposition.

Oklahoma and the United States have lost a colorful lawmaker in the death of Senator Kerr. He was a man who made friends and who made enemies—of equal ardor—because he was a man who was not to be bluffed. The Senator always stood his ground.

It is good to have men like that in the Senate.

[From the St. Louis (Mo.) Globe-Democrat, Jan. 2, 1963]

Senator Robert S. Kerr

The unexpected death of U.S. Senator Robert S. Kerr, of Oklahoma, has deprived Congress and the Nation of a Capitol Hill powerhouse, a very human and picturesque figure on the Washington scene, a fine Senator.

His growth from log cabin beginnings to become a multimillionaire oil and mining tycoon was more than the usual American success story. And his rise to become the uncrowned king of the Senate had little to do with business acumen.

Mr. Kerr used a keen mind, a prodigious talent for homework, a native skill for slashing debate to become the most sought after—and sometimes feared—Senator on the Hill.

He was friend and foe of the New Frontier. The President courted him whenever possible.

Mr. Kerr was credited with being the biggest single factor in clobbering Mr. Kennedy's pet medicare program, yet the White House turned to the Senator for help in the battle for the administration's tax and trade bills.

No one in Congress knew as much about America's water resources, or the urgent need to conserve them, than Senator Kerr. He came to St. Louis a few months ago and spoke in behalf of the successful bond drive to clean up our rivers. Mr. Kerr was also a resolute champion of highways. He coauthored the Kerr-Mills law to help needy aged with medical and health problems.

A man of homespun wit, that could develop a rapier thrust or a withering sarcasm, Senator Kerr was respected in Congress almost as much as among his Oklahoma constituents, for whom he stood first and last. He was a devout churchman, a leading Baptist in his State.

Bob Kerr left his mark on much legislation he was significantly instrumental in passing, laws that will long serve his country. His loss will be deeply felt among the major Senate committees on which he served.

His passing deprives the Nation of a signally able public servant.

[From the St. Louis (Mo.) Post-Dispatch, Jan. 3, 1963]

Changes in the Senate

The death of Senator Robert S. Kerr, of Oklahoma, will have a profound effect on the work of the Senate and on its relations with the White House. Senator Kerr had become known as the

most powerful man in the upper body, and though he opposed the administration on certain issues, he was a mainstay of President Kennedy on others.

The Senator, who headed Kerr-McGee Oil Industries, Inc., a $200 million oil, chemicals, and uranium concern, led the fight last year against Mr. Kennedy's program of medical care financed through social security, but he was in the forefront of the battle for the President's trade expansion program. He upheld the 27½-percent depletion allowance, of vital importance to extractive industries, but the administration had hoped for his assistance in putting over a tax reduction program this year.

Although Senator KERR was a witty orator and a skilled debater, he exercised much of his power behind the scenes. He had a keen grasp of the inner workings of the governmental machine. A major source of his power was his ability to control pork-barrel projects through his chairmanship of a Public Works Subcommittee. He was a member of the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation and of the Senate Finance Committee, and was chairman of the increasingly important Senate Aeronautical and Space Sciences Committee.

There will be important changes in the Senate other than those caused by Senator KERR's death. The defeat of Senators Wiley and Capehart has, for example, left two openings on the Foreign Relations Committee. The stature of the replacements chosen by the Republican Senators will measure the importance the party attaches to the conduct of a sound foreign policy, particularly with respect to bipartisanship.

A new factor in the Senate will be the presence of 30-year-old Edward Kennedy, of Massachusetts, who will occupy a unique position because one of his brothers is President, and another is Attorney General. The new Senator has been described by the President as the best politician in the family, and he is confirming this judgment by deliberately choosing assignments that will keep him out of the limelight.

The Senate faces a heavy workload in the coming 2 years, and the factors noted here will influence the legislative product. By how much, time will tell.

[From the Warrensburg (Mo.) Daily Star-Journal, Jan. 4, 1963]

IMPACT OF KERR DEATH

No one can say with precision just what effect Senator ROBERT S. KERR's death will have on the administration's legislative program in Congress. There is no doubt that White House measures will

have tougher sledding without the powerful Oklahoman's strength and legislative skill behind them.

Administration leaders thus have particular reason to mourn Senator KERR's passing. Others, of whatever political complexion, may regret the departure of one who acted boldly and resourcefully in behalf of strong convictions.

During the past year or so it had often been remarked that Senator KERR had become the most powerful man in the Senate. In a sense, he filled the power vacuum created when Lyndon B. Johnson left the Senate to become Vice President. Though he jumped on the Kennedy bandwagon with notable tardiness in 1960, he quickly became the President's right-hand man in the Senate. It was he whose support was principally instrumental in administration successes with trade, tax, and other legislation.

Now the White House must find another man, or men, to take up the slack in leadership. Particularly, a man must be found to manage administration tax proposals and maneuver them through the Senate. Senator KERR's shoes will be hard to fill.

[From the St. Louis (Mo.) Globe-Democrat, Jan. 4, 1963]

POWER VACUUM IN SENATE

Calling him "the Senate's single most powerful Member," Washington officials and correspondents are speculating on how the death of Senator ROBERT S. KERR will affect the Kennedy program in the upcoming session of Congress.

The power vacuum Senator KERR leaves is the one he stepped into 2 years ago. Up until then, he had spent 12 years in the Senate building up seniority, acquiring influence, but not exercising active leadership, which was held pretty firmly in the strong political hands of Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson.

With Senator Johnson moving up to the Vice Presidency, Mike Mansfield was supposed to take both his title and his place but, somehow, couldn't manage to fill his shoes. That gave Senator KERR his opportunity.

In the absence of a strong liberal or strong conservative who could exercise effective control of the Senate, the Oklahoman, hardly classified as either, simply took it over.

As was to be expected under these circumstances, Senator KERR used it for moderation. He supported those parts of the Kennedy program which he approved, but opposed those he didn't. Frequently, he would trade with the President, making concessions to the administration in exchange for some he wanted as a Senator.

That, particularly, is why Washington is trying to estimate how the Kennedy legislative program will fare in the absence of Senator KERR, who could give it the strongest support or the strongest opposition of any Member of the Senate.

Initially, objective observers feel that it could help Mr. Kennedy with his medicare proposal, which Senator KERR—coauthor of the Kerr-Mills plan—opposed, but hurt him with his tax-cut program, which the Senator favored. On these measures, however, the final decision may well come in the House. The House would probably spike both.

In the Senate, itself, the effect will be determined by who now steps into the power vacuum which Senator KERR filled the last 2 years. It is a tribute to his great service to the Congress and to the country that both are left wondering who can fill his place.

Tributes by Senator Curtis

Of Nebraska

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. President, shortly after Senator KERR's death the Omaha World-Herald published an editorial entitled "Without Mr. KERR." It appeared in their paper on January 3, 1963. I think that editorial should be preserved in these records and I include it as a part of my remarks:

[From the Omaha (Nebr.) World-Herald, Jan. 3, 1963]

WITHOUT MR. KERR

Last summer, as the final legislative battles of the 87th Congress were shaping up, this newspaper observed that Senator ROBERT KERR, of Oklahoma, was probably the most influential legislator in Washington and that his influence usually served the public interest.

Mr. KERR, who died Tuesday, was a self-made man who delivered strongly in the American enterprise system. He never saw reason to apologize for his wealth or his success. Yet he was a broad-gaged man whose interests went beyond business. They encompassed the world and America's place in it.

To him, perhaps more than to any other man, was due the credit for curbing the excesses of the administration's welfare legislation. Without his informed and persuasive opposition, the President's medical care plan might very well have become law.

But Mr. KERR was not merely a nay sayer and an obstructionist. He believed that there is a degree of Federal responsibility for medical care for the aged, and he had tried to meet it—successfully in the opinion of many—by coauthoring the Kerr-Mills Act.

Senator KERR was No. 2 man, behind Chairman Harry Byrd, on the taxwriting Senate Finance Committee, and he saw eye to eye with Mr. Byrd on many issues. As chairman of the Senate Aeronautical and Space Sciences Committee, he unquestionably was the leading congressional figure in space matters.

Thus by position, by knowledge, and by force of character, he quite likely was the Senate's most substantial man. His death Tuesday is not only a grievous loss to the country, but it can alter the balance between legislative and executive power.

This self-made man was a fierce champion of the integrity and independence of Congress at a time when President Kennedy, like

most President's before him, was trying to expand the power of the White House.

At a time when leadership in Congress had become relatively weak, ROBERT KERR was strong.

The Oklahoma Senator rose to prominence with relative suddenness after years in which he had been a minor figure. Americans will hope that some other Senator may come out of obscurity similiary to replace him. For with Senator KERR gone the Congress is weaker, and so is the voice of moderation.

Tributes by Senator Pearson

Of Kansas

Mr. PEARSON. Mr. President, the affection and respect for the great contribution of our former associate, Senator ROBERT S. KERR, of Oklahoma, extended far beyond the limits of his home State. This has been said to the Senate many times. Another example of this respect is indicated by the resolution of the City Commission of the City of El Dorado, Kans., which I submit here for inclusion, relating to the designation of the lake at Ponca City, Okla., on the Arkansas River as Lake Robert S. Kerr.

Be it resolved by the governing body of the city of El Dorado, Kans., That in recognition of the commendable public services of the late Senator ROBERT S. KERR, of the State of Oklahoma, not only to the people of his State, but to the people of the State of Kansas, and in particular to the Arkansas Basin Development Association in Kansas, and as partial recognition for his efforts and contributions to the public good, that it be recommended to the proper authorities, that the lake to be created on the Arkansas River east of Ponca City, Okla., be entitled and called Lake Robert S. Kerr.

Passed and approved this 5th day of February 1963.

PAUL F. MARTENS,
Mayor.
V. EUGENE PAYER,
Commissioner.
VIRGIL K. GODDING,
Commissioner.

Tributes by Representative Edmondson

Of Oklahoma

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 6, 1963

The Clerk called House Joint Resolution 82 designating the navigation channel and canal portion of the Arkansas River navigation and multiple-purpose project as the "Robert S. Kerr Seaway."

There being no objection, the Clerk read the House joint resolution, as follows:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the navigation channel and canal authorized as a portion of the Arkansas River navigation and multiple-purpose project authorized by the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1946, as amended, shall be known and designated hereafter as the "Robert S. Kerr Seaway". Any law, regulation, map, document, record, or other paper of the United States in which such navigaton channel and canal is referred to shall be held and considered to refer to such navigation channel and canal as the "Robert S. Kerr Seaway".

With the following committee amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

That the Short Mountain Lock and Dam and Reservoir on the Arkansas River in the State of Oklahoma shall be known as Robert S. Kerr Lock and Dam and Reservoir in honor of the late Senator ROBERT S. KERR, of Oklahoma. Any law, regulation, document, or record of the United States in which such project is referred to by any other name shall be held and considered to refer to such project by the name of Robert S. Kerr Lock and Dam and Reservoir.

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The House joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "Joint resolution to change the name of Short Mountain Lock and Dam and Reservoir in the State of Oklahoma to Robert S. Kerr Lock and Dam and Reservoir."

Mr. EDMONDSON. Mr. Speaker, I am very proud that the House of Representatives has taken such quick action in passing House Joint Resolution 82 to change the name of Short Mountain lock and dam and reservoir in Oklahoma to the Robert S. Kerr lock and dam and reservoir.

This is a measure based on a resolution which I introduced on the first day of this session of Congress, and which has received the enthusiastic support of every member of the Oklahoma congressional delegation, as well as the approval of the family of the late Senator KERR, and of many others who are familiar with the great work in water development which was initiated and carried on by Oklahoma's late senior Senator.

This proposal is a fitting tribute to this great man who captured the imagination of every Oklahoman and made our State conscious of the great need for water conservation and of the vast potential of water resource development.

The project, which will be located entirely in Oklahoma, will be the first large multiple-purpose structure to be encountered in Oklahoma by vessels moving upstream on the Arkansas navigation channel.

This multiple-purpose water resource development will be a living monument to the man who worked and fought his way from his log cabin heritage to become one of our State's most loved sons and one of our Nation's most progressive-minded statesmen.

Mr. Speaker, I am particularly proud of the language in the committee report regarding our late Senator:

SENATOR ROBERT S. KERR

Senator KERR'S family settled in Oklahoma Territory where the Senator was born 11 years before Oklahoma was granted statehood.

He was a son of a self-taught, scholarly father. In his youth he fought diligently for the benefits of a formal education under the most difficult circumstances. Like many another pioneer boy before him, he walked many miles to and from a small schoolhouse. Unable to afford the full college course, the future Senator interrupted his studies at the age of 17 to become a teacher in a one-room school. He enlisted in the Army and saw duty in France as a field artillery lieutenant in World War I. Later he gained knowledge of the law during an apprenticeship in the office of one of the great early-day Oklahoma attorneys. He worked his way through courses at East Central State College in Ada, Okla., and at the University of Oklahoma.

His natural leadership abilities came to statewide attention when at the age of 28 he was elected State commander of the American Legion. He later ventured into the field of oil and became the principal organizer of the greatest industry ever founded in Oklahoma.

In 1925 ROBERT S. KERR married Grayce Breene, the talented daughter of a pioneer Oklahoma oil-drilling contractor. Their three boys and one girl have now established families of their own and the love and affection that Oklahoma felt for Senator KERR was reflected in outpouring of sympathy for his immediate family when he passed away.

ROBERT S. KERR'S work in civic affairs and as a lay leader of his church brought him recognition rapidly after he moved to Oklahoma City in 1931. He rose quickly to leadership in the Democratic Party in his State, was elected national committeeman in 1940, and became the first native Oklahoman to be elected Governor 2 years later. He became vitally interested in water resources development after a series of devastating floods in Oklahoma combined with drought and depression conditions to produce great economic difficulties. One of his first acts when he came to the U.S. Senate in 1949 was to introduce a bill to create the Arkansas, White, and Red River Study Commission. This resulted in a completely coordinated plan for the development of the soil and water resources of the area. This study set a pattern for many similar ones throughout the country. As the years passed he became an expert in many fields, but his interests in the conservation and use of our water resources increased rather than decreased. He was chairman of the Select Committee on National Water Resources which made one of the most comprehensive studies ever undertaken.

Because of Senator KERR'S longstanding interest, his many and great contributions, and his unflagging zeal in the field of public works, the Committee on Public Works endorses wholeheartedly

the naming of this public works project for a most distinguished statesman.

The Department of the Army endorses this proposal, and its views are set forth in the following letter:

APRIL 1, 1963.

Hon. CHARLES A. BUCKLEY,
Chairman, Committee on Public Works,
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Reference is made to your request for the views of the Department of the Army with respect to House Joint Resolution 82, 88th Congress, a resolution designating the navigation channel and canal portion of the Arkansas River navigation and multiple-purpose project as the Robert S. Kerr Seaway.

This resolution would designate the navigation portion of the comprehensive project for the Arkansas River and tributaries, Oklahoma and Arkansas, as the Robert S. Kerr Seaway in honor of the late Senator from Oklahoma.

This Department recognizes the great contributions made by Senator KERR toward water resources development. Therefore, it is considered entirely appropriate that one of the projects near his home be named after him.

Accordingly, the Department of the Army would have no objection to House Joint Resolution 82. On the other hand, the committee might wish to consider (as possibly more appropriate than naming for Senator KERR a navigation channel extending through Arkansas as well as a portion of Oklahoma, as contemplated in H.J. Res. 82) designating in the Senator's honor a single water resource unit lying entirely within his home State of Oklahoma, for example, the Short Mountain lock, dam, and reservoir project. The Department of the Army would favor this latter course of action, which could be accomplished through appropriate revision of House Joint Resolution 82.

Since the committee has specifically requested that this report be furnished as expeditiously as possible, the views of the Bureau of the Budget have not been obtained with respect thereto. As soon as those views have been received, the committee will be notified.

Sincerely yours,

CYRUS R. VANCE,
Secretary of the Army.

JUL 31 '64

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